

Dartmouth Shellfishing Abstract

Type of Permit/License	Who may use it	Days of Week Restrictions (1)	Time of Year Restrictions	Catch Limits	Allowable Harvest Methods
Resident Recreational	Named permit holder and listed household members (2)	<p><i>Softshell clams:</i> Only on Tuesday and Saturdays</p> <p><i>Quahogs:</i> only on Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat. NOT on Sundays, Mondays or Tuesdays</p> <p><i>Oysters:</i> Only on Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat.</p>	<p><i>Clams and Quahogs:</i> only Harvested when air temperature is above 32°F on open days</p> <p><i>Oysters:</i> may only be Harvested between Nov.1 and March 31</p>	<p><i>Soft-shell clams:</i> one peck per week /permit</p> <p><i>Quahogs:</i> 2 pecks (½ bushel) per week/per permit. No more than 50% may be “neck” (3)</p> <p><i>Oysters:</i> 2 pecks (½ bushel) per week/per permit</p>	<p><i>Clams:</i> by hand, clam fork, clam rake, clam hoe or hand-plunger</p> <p><i>Mussels, Oysters & Quahogs:</i> by hand or hand rake.</p> <p><u>Oysters and Quahogs may only be harvested from areas of 6” water depth or greater</u></p> <p>Dry-Digging is prohibited</p>
Non-Resident Recreational	By named permit holder only				
Senior Resident Recreational	By named senior (65+) and any household member under 16 YOA				
Commercial Resident License	18 YOA Resident w/ State Transaction Card	<p><i>Softshell clams:</i> Only on Tuesday and Saturdays</p> <p><i>Quahogs:</i> only on Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat. NOT on Sundays, Mondays or Tuesdays</p> <p><i>Oysters:</i> Only on Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat</p>	<p><i>Clams and Quahogs:</i> only Harvested when air temperature is above 32°F on open days</p> <p><i>Oysters:</i> may only be Harvested between Nov.1 and March 31</p>	<p><i>Soft-shell clams:</i> one peck per week /permit</p> <p><i>Quahogs:</i> 3 bushel per day/12 bushel per week. No more than 50% may be “neck” (3)</p> <p><i>Oysters:</i> One Bushel per week/per permit</p>	<p><i>Clams:</i> by hand, clam fork, clam rake, clam hoe or hand-plunger</p> <p><i>Mussels, Oysters & Quahogs:</i> by hand, hand or bull rake, or tongs.</p> <p><u>Oysters and Quahogs may only be harvested from areas of 6” water depth or greater</u></p> <p>Dry-Digging is Prohibited</p>
Resident Recreational Scallop Permit (non-commercial use only)	By named permit holder only	Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat only (not Sun., Mon. or Tues.)	Only between October 1 st and March 31 st	One bushel per permit per calendar week, measured in-shell	By hand, hand-rake, dip-net, or towed dredge no wider than 36” and without teeth

All Harvesting is allowed only between 30 minutes after sunrise and 30 minutes before sunset. Landing must occur by sunset.

No Harvesting of shellfish is allowed by means of SCUBA or DIVING. No Power-Dredging or Commercial Scallop is allowed in Dartmouth.

This abstract does not include information on CLOSED areas. You are responsible for knowing/understanding the status of each harvest area.

- (1) No harvesting of any shellfish, eels or seaworms allowed on any official holiday of the Commonwealth.
- (2) “Household Members” are defined as spouse, dependents (per tax filing), listed on annual Town census form, living in same residence as permit holder. **The named permit holder must be physically present, supervise, and be responsible for activities of any household member acting under their permit.**
- (3) “neck” is defined as quahogs with a hinge width measurement of 1” to 2½”. No more than 50% of quahog catch may be neck-sized.