

DIGHTON'S WATERWAYS RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. For purposes of these Rules and Regulations, "Dighton waters" shall include the Taunton River contiguous with the shore of the Town of Dighton and extending to the center-line of the channel as shown on the latest Coast and Geodesic Survey of Narragansett Bay issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, from the Taunton town line center-line, south to the Somerset town line.
2. For purposes of enforcement these Rules and Regulations, the duly appointed Assistant Harbor Masters and any police officer shall have the powers of the Harbor Master.
3. No mooring shall be placed in Dighton waters without prior consent of the Harbor Master. (310 CMR 9.07)
4. All mooring shall be inspected every three years by user or at user's expense. User is responsible for integrity of mooring tackle, etc.
5. All moorings will have a boat registration number attached to the mooring to avoid any questions as to ownership.
6. All non-transient registered, or documented boats on moorings or floating docks shall be registered (via an application) with the Harbor Master by June 1 of "each" year. Proof of excise tax payment, if applicable, must be provided when applying for registration (310 CMR-9.07).
7. No Mooring is to be transferable, with the exception of the immediate family upon which the Harbor Master is to be advised in writing.
8. No boat shall be put on a mooring that was designed for a smaller craft. Owners of moorings are forbidden to change the size of a boat on their mooring without advising the Harbor Master in writing.
9. Vessels moored in Dighton waters in excess of 5 days will be considered non-transient vessels subject to mooring application.
10. No private mooring may be rented, sold or transferred without prior written permission from the Harbor Master.
11. Any mooring that is not visible for two weeks after being applied for Master shall be considered by the Harbor a navigational hazard, subject to removal at owner's expense and the right to use that location will be forfeited.
12. Winter (sticks) logs should have registration numbers marked on them.

13. No vessel shall be moored or anchored so as interfere with free and unobstructed use of channels, fairways or berthing spaces.
14. Swimming is prohibited in all designated channels and fairways.
15. Pot floats, fish nets, and fishing lines (other than individual lines cast or trolled) are prohibited in all channels and fairways.
16. No person shall deposit or abandon a vessel or structure upon a beach, public right-of-way. When any vessel or structure is deposited or abandoned in the waters of Dighton, the Harbor Master is authorized and empowered to remove or cause to be removed said vessel or structure at owner's expense.
17. No person or vessel may discharge sanitary waste into Dighton waters except those wastes that are treated by Type I or II MSD's (Marine Sanitation Devices).
18. No vessel may operate so as to create a wake in those areas designated as "No Wake" zones.
19. No watercraft (including jet and water skis) may operate at a speed of over "way speed" within 150 feet of any mooring, launching ramp, or docking area or within 300 feet of any public or private bathing area.

20. Vessels operated after dark shall display Coast Guard approved running lights.

21. MOORING TACKLE REGULATION

a) The suggested minimum requirements for moorings are as follows:

<u>Length of Boat</u>	<u>Steel Wheel or Equivalent</u>	<u>Cement Block or Equivalent</u>
0 - 16 ft.	150 lb.	24" x 24" x 08"
17 - 25 ft.	250 lb.	30" x 30" x 08"
26 - 32 ft.	500 lb.	30" x 30" x 12"
33 - 50 ft.	1000 lb.	48" x 48" x 15"
Over 50 ft.	As approved by Harbor Master on case-by-case basis.	

- b) All cement blocks must be steel "rerod" reinforced.
- c) Hairpins must be 25% heavier than chain specification.
- d) All shackles must be wired with stainless steel or the equivalent.

22. CHAIN SIZE

- a) The following minimum mooring chain with (swivel) sizes are required:

<u>Boat Length</u>	<u>Diameter</u>
0 - 32 ft.	3/8"
33 - 50 ft.	1/2"
Over 50 ft.	As approved by Harbor Master on case-by-case basis.

23. PENNANT DIAMETER

- a) The following minimum pennant diameters are required:

<u>Boat Length</u>	<u>Nylon or Equivalent</u>
0 - 16 ft.	1/2"
17 - 25 ft.	5/8"
26 - 32 ft.	3/4"
33 - 50 ft.	7/8"

24. LENGTH OF CHAINS AND PENNANTS

- a) The minimum length of chains for flotation buoys shall be equal to 1 1/2 times the depth of the water at maximum high water.
- b) The minimum length of pennants shall be three and one-half (3 1/2) times the distance from the bow chock to the water.

25. MARKER

- a) The use of spars for flotation shall be prohibited.
- b) Only balls or styrene-type chain (white with blue stripe) flotation shall be used.
- c) All chain flotation buoys shall be plainly and clearly visible above the tide level at all times.
26. The Harbor Master is empowered to exercise his discretion in enforcing rules and regulations. The Harbor Master may in any emergency situation or situation requiring immediate attention take any temporary action with regard to these rules and regulations as shall be necessary in the circumstances.

27. All other pertinent State and Federal laws and regulations shall apply.

28. PENALTIES: Anyone violating any provision of these Rules and Regulations shall be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$50.00 for each such violation. With the approval of the Harbor Master, a person found to have violated these Rules and Regulations may, instead of paying such a civil penalty, attend and complete an approved water safety training program. Each violation of each provision herein shall constitute a separate offense and "each day" or portion thereof during which a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation at the discretion of the Harbor Master.

29. If any provision of these Rules and Regulations should be void as a result of any federal, state or local law, rule or regulation, it shall not affect the validity of the other provisions here.

INTO EFFECT SEPTEMBER 23, 1998



a:\nick\DightonWaterwaysandRulesReg