

Eastham Recreation & Beach Department

Frequently Asked Questions

When is registration for summer programs?

Summer 2017 registration will be Saturday, June 17 from 9:00am - noon. For Swim Lessons, Swim Team and Paddle Board, please register at Wiley Park (Herringbrook Road). For all other programs, please sign-up at the Recreation & Beach Office (located between Town Hall and the Fire Department). Call (508) 240-5974 with questions.

When does the Sticker Office open?

The Sticker Office will open the Friday of Memorial Day Weekend.

When are Taxpayer Stickers required?

The 2017 Beach Sticker and the 2017 Transfer Station Sticker are required on July 1, 2017. The Taxpayer section of Nauset Light Beach will be staffed starting on July 1, 2017.

When do you begin charging daily fees at the beaches?

The Town of Eastham bay beaches and ponds will be staffed starting Saturday, June 24, 2017.

Where can I pay a daily fee to park at the beach?

There are four (4) Town of Eastham beaches where you can pay a daily fee. Those beaches are; First Encounter, Campground, Cooks Brook and Wiley Park. Upon entrance, you will pay the gate attendant \$20.00 and be issued a paper day pass. The day pass is also valid at Great Pond Beach, but must be purchased at any one of the four (4) beaches noted above. Your day pass is interchangeable amongst these five (5) beaches; only for that one-day it is issued. Town of Eastham day passes are NOT valid at the Cape Cod National Seashore (ocean-side beaches) and vice-versa.

What is a "Sticker Only" Beach?

At a sticker only beach you must have either a Town of Eastham Taxpayer Beach Sticker or a Town of Eastham Visitor (One-week, Two-week or Seasonal) Beach Sticker to park. No day passes are sold or accepted at these beaches. Without a sticker, your vehicle will be subject to a \$50.00 parking fine. Cape Cod National Seashore Stickers are NOT accepted at Town of Eastham Sticker Only Beaches.

Where do I purchase a beach sticker?

The Town of Eastham Sticker Office is located at 555 Old Orchard Road. Their phone number is (508) 240-5976. They will open Friday, May 26 for the 2017 season. The hours of operation for Memorial Day Weekend are ~ May 26 & 27 from 9am until 3pm and May 28 & 29 from 9am until noon. From May 30 through June 21 they are open every day except Sunday from 9am until noon. Beginning Thursday, June 22 thru Wednesday, August 23 their hours are Monday through Saturday from 9am until 3pm except on Wednesdays when the office closes at noon. On Sundays (beginning Sunday June 25), VISITOR stickers ONLY will be available at Wiley Park from 9am until 3pm. The office will close at noon on 8/23/2017 for the season. Starting, THURSDAY 8/24/2017...Beach stickers will be available at Wiley Park from 9am - 3pm daily thru Labor Day...Transfer Station stickers will be available at the Transfer Station during their normal business hours and Shellfish Permits will be available at the Natural Resources Building during their normal business hours. We do not accept Credit Cards.

Are the Day Passes and/or Visitor Stickers valid at the Cape Cod National Seashore?

No. The bay beaches are run by the Town of Eastham and the seashore is owned and operated by the federal government.

Are the Taxpayer Stickers valid at the Cape Cod National Seashore?

Town of Eastham Taxpayer Stickers are valid at Nauset Light Beach and Coast Guard Beach.

Where are the lifeguards?

Lifeguards are stationed at Wiley Park and Great Pond. Lifeguards are also stationed at the National Seashore beaches.

Which beaches have bath houses?

First Encounter Beach, Cooks Brook Beach and Wiley Park have bath houses. All other Town-owned public beaches and ponds (except Dyer Prince and Boat Meadow) are equipped with portable toilets.

Are there concession stands at any of the bay beaches?

No, there is no food sold at the beaches. The only exception to this is ice cream trucks make stops at the Town of Eastham bay beaches and ponds.

Are dogs allowed on the beach?

There are absolutely no dogs allowed on any of the town beaches at any time from June 15 through Labor Day.

Can't my dog just stay in my car?

State law prohibits securing an animal in the car under conditions that would adversely affect the animal's health - as in a car parked in the sun with the windows rolled up. Town of Eastham Beach Rules and Regulations state "No animals or pets will be permitted on the beaches, in the parking areas, or in vehicles in the parking areas at any time during the period of June 15th through Labor Day."

What is the Target Ship?

The ship's actual name is "The James Longstreet." Employed as a transport vessel in WWII, the ship presently remains on a sandbar and is known for its past use as a target for Otis Air Force Base's target practice. The Target Ship can be seen from any beach at low tide only.

What are those blue boxes in the marsh?

The blue boxes, officially called Manitoba Flycatchers, are located in the marsh and attempt to capture greenhead flies. There is nothing inside of the boxes; it is the blue color which attracts the flies.

When is high tide?

High tide is different each day. A full tide cycle is 12 hours and there are 6 hours between a high tide and a low tide. Each day the tide advances approximately 1 hour. For example: Monday 9:00am high tide, 3:00pm low tide and 9:00pm high tide. Tuesday 10:00am high tide, 4:00pm low tide and 10:00pm low tide.

Where can we use jet skis?

Jet skis are not allowed at the fresh water ponds and cannot be launched at a bathing beach in Eastham.

Where can we water ski?

Water skiing is permitted only at Great Pond on even numbered days. For example, water skiing would be allowed on July 2nd, but not July 3rd. All boats must have an inspection sticker, which can be obtained at the Natural Resources Department on Old Orchard Road. Their phone number is (508) 240-5972. All boats must be less than 50 horsepower.

Can we launch our boat?

No boat trailers are allowed on the beach. Small boats such as canoes, sunfish, and kayaks may be carried over the beach and into the water.