

# **Town of Eastham Policy Guidelines**

## **Vessel Storage Regulations and Policies**

### **1.0 Authority**

The Select Board, through the authority derived from MGL Chapter 91 (Waterways) hereby adopts a set of guidelines for Eastham's vessel storage.

### **2.0 Purpose**

The Town of Eastham vessel storage regulations have been established in order to provide effective utilization of the Town's coastal and inland water venues. This shall be done by controlling the placement of all vessels, establishing delineated spaces and annual removal. This will ensure that the environment and the locales be protected for all to benefit from in the future.

### **3.0 Definition of a Vessel**

***“Vessel”*** A vessel is every description of watercraft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on the water.

Vessels permitted to be stored under these regulations shall be no longer than twelve (12) feet in length except for canoes, kayaks, wind surfers, or paddle boards.

### **4.0 General Regulations:**

4.1 Unless a vessel owner secures written permission from the Harbormaster or his/her designees for a proven need and that the vessel be actively used, no vessel shall be stored or placed on the Town's property between November 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup> of the following year. Any vessel placed or remaining between those dates shall be considered abandoned property under this regulation. The Town of Eastham shall not be responsible for damage to or theft of any vessel on Town property or for loss of property considered abandoned under this regulation.

4.2 **A vessel storage permit is required annually. The permit sticker shall be attached to the aft port side of the vessel, above the waterline before any vessel shall be placed on Town of Eastham property listed below in Section 5. Transient permits may be issued by the Harbormaster for certain locations.** All permits can be obtained at the Natural Resources/Harbor Master's office located at 555 Old Orchard Road, Eastham, MA, 02642. Office phone number is 508-240-5972.

4.3 At no time shall vessels be stored outside of designated areas of any of the Town of Eastham parcels.

- 4.4 No vessel shall be placed as to cause damage to any Town of Eastham property.
- 4.5 Other than as may temporarily be required during launching, vessels shall not be placed on the launch ramp.
- 4.6 Trailer storage is prohibited over night on the Town of Eastham's property unless a vessel owner secures permission from the Harbormaster or designees.
- 4.7 No vessels (boat, kayak, canoe, paddleboard, etc.) may be stored on Town beaches M.G.L. Chapter 88, Section 19 and Eastham Beach Rules and Regulations. All vessel storage shall be at designated areas as specifically described in Section 5.
- 4.8 A fee may be imposed for a vessel storage permit. The amount shall be determined annually by the Select Board.
- 4.9 Vessels shall be placed at ONLY one location approved in Section 5.0. Each Vessel is a separate permit. Change of location without approval from the Harbormaster and his/her designees shall result in removal of the vessel, fines, and revocation of the vessels permit for the year.
- 4.10 Only two vessels shall be stored per household.
- 4.11 Advertising of commercial businesses or services, utilizing signage, vessels, or other objects for advertising in vessel storage areas is prohibited.
- 4.12 Sub-letting or rental of vessels with vessel storage permits, vessel storage permits, or vessel storage locations is prohibited. Vessel storage permits are not transferrable.
- 4.13 Vessel storage permits are reserved for Eastham tax-payers, or year-round residents renting property in Eastham. Renters shall provide a copy of their lease with their vessel storage application.

## **5.0 Town of Eastham Property List**

The following is the list of the Town owned property where vessels may be stored between April 16<sup>th</sup> and November 14<sup>th</sup> (of the same calendar year). Vessels may be stored only in areas within these parcels as designated by the Harbormaster.

- 1) Map 019 / Parcel 015A: (Known as Boat Meadow)
- 2) Map 015 / Parcel 118: (Known as Hemenway Landing)
- 3) Map 012 / Parcel 319: (Known as Salt Pond Landing)

4) Map 014 / Parcel 097: (Known as Great Pond Landing)

5) Map 001 / Parcel 097: (Known as South Sunken Meadow)

**6.0 Section D. Violations and Penalties**

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws: Chapter 40 – (Powers and Duties of Cities and Towns), Section 21D – (Non-criminal disposition of ordinance, by-law, rule or regulation violations) the following regulations do apply:

- 6.1 Any person who violates any provision of these rules, regulations or law shall be punishable by a fine of up to two hundred dollars (\$200) for each offense, and/or loss of ability to obtain a vessel storage permit for the following year, and/or the vessel may be scraped or otherwise disposed of by the Town, except where a violation takes place in an area further restricted by statute, where the penalty shall be set by that statute. Each day's continued violation shall constitute a separate offense.
- 6.2 The foregoing regulations shall be enforced by the Harbormaster and designees and any Police Officer of the Town of Eastham.

Adopted by the Board of Selectmen, and revised April 2014;  
revised March 28, 2016,  
Revised April 24, 2023