

ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

PRIVATE MOORING PERMIT POLICIES

1. Private Mooring Permits shall be issued on an annual basis for the personal and recreational use of the Mooring Permit holder.
2. All Moorings shall be located in the waters of the Town of Essex. The minimum requirements for ground tackle are outlined in the Harbor Management Plan. All ground tackle must be inspected every (2) years by the Essex Harbor Master or its designee. Pilings are considered as acceptable anchors, if deemed in useable condition by the Essex Harbor Master or its designee. However, pilings shall not be considered a “Mooring” for which a Permit may be issued.
3. All vessels must be registered or certificated by the State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles in accordance with applicable regulations. A copy of the State of Connecticut Registration or Certificate of Decal must be filed with the Application for Annual Permit.
4. Proof of financial responsibility (Liability Insurance – Certificate of Insurance) shall be required for all watercraft (boat, barge, float, etc.) for which an Application for Mooring Permit is made.
5. Private Moorings are intended for the regular personal use of the Mooring Permit holder. In order to ensure appropriate and reasonable use of the space allocated, it is required that the mooring shall be occupied by the watercraft for which the permit was issued on a regular basis during the boating season. For purposes of the forgoing, “boating season” is defined as Memorial Day to Labor Day. In the event a permitted mooring is not going to be used for an extended period by the Permit Holder, the Permit Holder shall so notify the Harbor Master in advance.
6. Any person to whom a Mooring Permit is issued for the ensuing boating season who fails or neglects for any reason to install the required mooring tackle at the assigned mooring location during the boating season may at the discretion of the Harbor Master) be determined ineligible and disqualified for renewal of that Mooring Permit the following year. In the event such ineligible and disqualified person seeks issuance of new Mooring Permit, that person shall be placed at the bottom of any wait list for any area of Essex Harbor and shall not be issued a new mooring permit for such location until such space becomes available.
7. Mooring Permits shall be issued for the calendar year period.
8. Pursuant to U.S. Coast Guard requirements, all mooring balls (floats) shall be of white color with a blue horizontal stripe around the middle circumference of same. The Mooring ball (float) shall have the Mooring Permit Holder’s Permit Number and Permit Holder’s initials with anchor weight marked on it.

9. All Mooring Permit Applicants shall be required to submit with the Application evidence of a suitable means of access to a mooring in the specific area requested before a Mooring Permit will be issued. For example, the Application for a Mooring Permit in the Great Meadow Area or various Essex Cove Areas shall be limited to Applicants who provide evidence of a means of allowable and permitted use and access from the mainland to those Mooring Areas.
10. Mooring Permit Application Renewal Forms will be mailed out in or about October of each year. A twenty (20) day period from date of mailing will be allowed for the return of the Renewal Application together with payment and all additional required information. Failure to strictly comply with this renewal time period requirement may result in the denial of the Permit Application at the discretion of the Essex Harbor Master. A Mooring Permit Renewal Applicant who has not timely responded as prescribed above will be advised in writing that the Mooring Permit Renewal Application has been denied.
11. The EHMC policy regarding cancellation of Mooring Permits and Refunds is as follows: Mooring Permits may be canceled by the Permittee and a refund requested if a written request for cancellation and refund of the Permit Fee is received via email by the Essex Harbor Master by March 1 of this year. No Exceptions.
12. At such time as the Annual Mooring Permit Renewal process commences in or about October of each year, the top ten (10) individuals on the Mooring Permit Waiting List may be advised in writing of the possibility of available mooring space becoming available in the Mooring Area previously requested and may be sent a Mooring Permit Application. Such notification shall clearly state that that notice and the completion and submission of such Application by the Applicant does not guaranty the granting or issuance of a Mooring Permit. All such Applications sent must be timely submitted in fully completed form together with all required information including, the required State of Connecticut Registration/Certificate of Decal and proof of insurance in order to be considered for the granting of the Application and issuance of a Mooring Permit for the coming year. The Essex Harbor Management Commission will then notify the Applicant as soon as possible, as to whether there is sufficient space in the requested area to allow the granting of the Application and the issuance of a Permit. When a location becomes available during the year, the Harbor Master may offer it to an appropriate boat owner based on the current wait list.
13. The holder of a Mooring Permit for the prior year and/or an Applicant for a new Mooring Permit from the then current Mooring Permit Waiting List may, by writing request to the Essex Harbor Management Commission, request a “sabbatical year” status. A “sabbatical year” is a one (1) time opportunity to hold a mooring position status for the next year. However, the granting of such status by the Essex Harbor Management Commission does not guarantee that a mooring position will in fact be available the following year. In the event a Mooring is not available to an Applicant

following such a “sabbatical year,” the Essex Harbor Management Commission may at its discretion grant an additional “sabbatical year” to that Applicant on the same basis.

14. The Essex Harbor Master working with the mooring service provider will set the new mooring field layout once the Mooring Permit Application receipt process has been completed.
15. Note that your mooring has been set on the basis of your boat’s particulars as well as those of other boats in the immediate area. As such, it may not be the same location as in prior years. Also, depending upon everchanging marine conditions and differing boat characteristics, it may be necessary to adjust the exact mooring location once the mooring field is fully occupied and just how the boats relate to each other is able to be observed.
16. Mooring Permits are required for any allowed Winter nesting or storing of floats, subject to statutory and regulatory provisions enacted by the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.
17. Owners of floats that are moored/anchored, including floats moored between pilings, which are not part of a permitted structure, are, in accordance with State regulatory policy, required to provide the Essex Harbor Management Commission with proof of financial responsibility by way of a Certificate of Insurance or equivalent documentation.

Revision approved at the June 22, 2023 meeting.