

**Town of Dennis
Beach Rules and Regulations**

IN ORDER TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC IN THE USE OF BEACH AND PARKING AREAS OWNED BY THE TOWN OF DENNIS, THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DO HEREBY ADOPT THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS:

I. Parking

Admission to parking at the Town Beach Areas as designated shall be governed by the following:

A. Public Parking Areas

Northside

Chapin Memorial Beach
Corporation Beach
Howes Street Beach
Mayflower Beach
Princess Beach
Scargo Beach
Sea Street Beach, East Dennis

Southside

Glendon/Durling Beach
Haigis Beach
Inman Road Beach
Raycroft Beach
Sea Street Beach, Dennisport
South Village Road Beach (North lot)
Metcalf Memorial Beach

Resident Only Parking Areas

Northside

Bayview Beach
Cold Storage Beach
Harborview Beach

Southside

South Village Beach (South lot)
West Dennis Beach (East lot)

- **ONLY REAL ESTATE TAX PAYERS OR YEAR-ROUND RESIDENTS SECURING A DENNIS RESIDENT VEHICLE PASS SHALL BE PERMITTED TO PARK IN RESIDENT ONLY BEACH LOTS.**

- B. A real estate taxpayer or a year round resident in the Town of Dennis, Massachusetts, may secure a Dennis Vehicle Pass for each motor vehicle registered or leased in his name, his spouse's name, his company, or his minor dependent, which is valid in all of the above areas for a fee set by the Board of Selectmen. If the property is in a trust, only trustees are entitled to a vehicle pass.
- C. Any person not entitled under Section (B) above to receive a Dennis Vehicle Pass may request an administrative review of his claim by the Board of Selectmen or its duly authorized Agent. The decision of the Board or its Agent as to the issuance of the vehicle pass shall be final.
- D. Any person may secure a weekly vehicle pass for all the designated public parking areas for a fee, as set by the Board of Selectmen

- E. All persons shall be charged a Beach Parking Fee for use of the above-mentioned areas set by the Board of Selectmen. Upon payment of their fee, a receipt shall be displayed as to be visible.
- F. Commercial and other type buses carrying more than (15) persons will not be permitted to park in the lots. They will be required to drop off and pick up in a designated area.
- G. Each pass shall bear the registration number and make of the vehicle for which it has been issued and shall be valid ONLY for that vehicle. The pass is only valid if it is attached to the passenger side front bumper as directed. An invalid sticker will be removed from the vehicle on which it was found and that vehicle will receive a police ticket. A vehicle with dealer plates will require a special permit with the photos of the property owner included. This vehicle will only be allowed into the lot with one of the property owners in the vehicle.

1. If a vehicle is found to have a fraudulent sticker, a \$50.00 violation will be issued to the owner of that vehicle. A notation will be made in the sticker database preventing the individual who purchased the sticker from obtaining any beach sticker for (3) years. Some of these examples are (but not limited to) the following:

- a. **Altering the sticker or number in any way**
- b. **Giving the sticker to another person**
- c. **Producing a duplicate sticker or a counterfeit sticker**

2. A second offense will result in the permanent loss of beach sticker privileges in the Town of Dennis.

- H. Pass entitles vehicle to a single parking space. Vehicles will be required to pay for any additional spaces they occupy.
- I. No person shall park or cause a motor vehicle to be left or parked in the above described areas during posted beach hours without displaying a daily pass or sticker, affixed to his or her vehicle as described above. The penalty for parking in violation of this provision shall be Fifty dollars (\$50.00) and shall be enforced in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 90, section 20 A1/2. Violators may be towed from a Resident Lot at owner's expense.

II. Regulations

General

- 1. Town officials, lifeguards, and beach monitors must be obeyed in the enforcement of these regulations and in any other situation in which the judgment of the lifeguard or appropriate town agent must be exercised for the protection and safety of persons using the beach facilities.
- 2. Any person verbally assaulting, bullying, cursing or otherwise attempting to harass and/or intimidate a Town employee, lifeguard or beach monitor, will have their beach sticker revoked for the remainder of the current season. Any person who attempts to prevent a Town employee from performing their job duties related to regulation enforcement through verbal assault, bullying, cursing, displaying

intimidating behavior or otherwise attempting to harass, stalk or display threatening gestures will have their **beach sticker parking** privileges revoked for the remainder of the current season. A second offense shall result in the permanent loss of the sticker privilege.

3. Beaches are staffed by lifeguards only during posted hours. Beach use is at individual's own risk.
4. Access to Town owned beach parking areas may be restricted at the discretion of the appropriate Town Agents at any time.
5. Public nudity, including public nude bathing, by any person on the Dennis public beaches is prohibited.
6. Children under ten (10) years of age must be accompanied by an adult or person responsible for his or her behavior within the beach area.
7. Smoking or vaping on the beach or the parking lot is prohibited at all times.
8. No littering will be permitted on the beaches or in the parking areas at ANY TIME. NO GLASS containers or bottles shall be allowed on the beach or in the parking areas at any time.
9. No radio or any other audio device by which sound may be reproduced and/or amplified shall be operated on any beach or parking facility owned and operated by the Town of Dennis in such a manner as to be audible beyond a radius of 15 feet from its location.
10. Use of open fires is prohibited at all times. The use of grills must be permitted only in designated parking areas with prior approval from the Beach Department.
11. Access to the beach is limited to specified pathways. Use of closed pathways and/or the creation of new pathways is not allowed.
12. All persons and beach related equipment **must stay off of** all vegetation, dune faces, steeply sloped dunes, fore dunes, primary dunes, marked plover habitat and wash over areas
13. The judgment of the beach monitors, lifeguards or Town Agents must be followed for the protection and safety of persons using the beach facilities.
14. No selling, advertising, soliciting or giving away of goods or services will be permitted on the beaches or parking areas, except by concessionaire under contract with the Town of Dennis or with prior approval of the Board of Selectmen.

Alcohol

No alcoholic beverages will be permitted on the beaches or in the parking areas at ANY TIME.

a. Penalty

- i. Observe, educate, and warn (beach monitor)**
- ii. \$100 fine (Police)**
- iii. \$300 fine and or loss of sticker (Police)**

This may result in a criminal complaint for which a fine of not more than \$300 may be imposed for each offense. As an alternative to the criminal complaint process an enforcement official may issue a non-criminal violation notice with a fine of \$100 for 1st offense, and 2nd and subsequent offenses will be \$300 and/or loss of Beach Sticker (resident, non-resident, seasonal, weekly or daily pass), pursuant to the provision of Massachusetts General Law 40-21D and Town of Dennis By-law.

Parking

1. Unless otherwise authorized, beaches and beach parking areas are closed to the general public during posted hours as determined by the Board of Selectmen.
2. No individual or group of individuals will be granted reserved parking places or areas of the beach. Space saving/holding of spaces on the beach in advance is strictly prohibited. Unattended personal items (i.e.: beach chairs, blankets and coolers) will be consolidated into a **stack/pile** and left on the beach until closing time. Any unclaimed personal items left on the beach will be considered abandoned and will be relocated to the trash area.
3. Parking spaces will be **modified**, constructed or temporarily closed to protect nesting birds.

Dogs

1. No animals or pets will be permitted on the beaches, in the parking areas, or in unattended vehicles in the parking areas AT ANY TIME from the Friday of Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.
2. Dogs are prohibited from beaches when active piping plover nests are **present**. Violators will be subject to \$100 **fine**.

Recreation

1. No ball playing, tossing of Frisbees, or other objects will be permitted without expressed permission of the lifeguard and in areas to be designated by the lifeguards or appropriate Town Agents.
2. Rollerblades, skateboards, roller skates and scooters are prohibited from all Town beach parking lots when staffed.
3. The use of airborne devices including, but not limited to: drones, planes, personal jetpacks, other motorized flying devices are prohibited at the beaches and parking lots at Town beaches unless authorized at the discretion of an appropriate Town Agent and lifeguard.
4. Use of rafts, inflatable or umbrellas, skim boards, tents, or kites may be prohibited as directed by appropriate Town Agents and lifeguards.
5. No canopies larger than 10' x 10' are allowed on the beach. Canopies must be located behind or parallel to the lifeguard stands and be no closer than 10' to a boardwalk or may be placed at the discretion of an appropriate Town Agent or lifeguard.

6. Windsurfing, kite boarding and board rigging are restricted to the designated areas for said purpose. No rigging shall occur with the dunes or salt marsh at any beach. Equipment shall not be left in the parking lot in such a manner to occupy an additional parking space.
7. No boating, fishing, windsurfing, kiteboarding, paddle boarding or scuba diving will be permitted in areas designated by lifeguards and or swim buoys as swimming areas.

West Dennis Beach

1. The West Dennis Beach parking lot will be restricted and subject to vehicle escorts when piping plover chicks are present. Escorting will only occur between 8 am and 3 pm. Vehicles escorted past the parking lot barricades will be required to exit the parking lot no later than 4 pm. Vehicles left unattended within the closed portion of the lot will be subject to a \$50 **fine**. Violators may be towed at the owner's expense.
2. During parking lot closures at West Dennis Beach, all motorized forms of transportation, including but not limited to, automobiles, motorcycles, electric bikes, and scooters will be prohibited beyond the barricades without an escort.
3. At West Dennis Beach, no dogs or any animals will be allowed west of the middle bath house from April 1 through Labor Day.
4. Refuge areas 50 yards or more around nests and above the high tide line are delineated with warning signs and symbolic fencing. Only authorized persons may enter these areas.
5. Refuge areas 50 yards or more around nests and above the high tide line are delineated with warning signs and symbolic fencing. Only authorized persons may enter these areas.
6. Windsurfing and kiteboarding will be restricted to specific areas when nesting piping plovers are present. Setbacks from the beach will be designated by buoys. No kiteboarding will be allowed within the buoyed area.

Any violation of these regulations may result in a criminal complaint for which a fine of not more than three \$300 may be imposed for each offense. As an alternative to the criminal complaint process an enforcement official may issue a non-criminal violation notice with a fine of \$50 or more for any violation of these regulations pursuant to the provision of Massachusetts General Law 40-21D and Town of Dennis By-law.

As amended February 4, 2021