



## Covid-19 State of the Harbor Update

**May 19, 2020**

This update is provided to give a current status of harbor operations and upcoming boating season due to the Covid-19 crisis.

**First I would like to state that the harbor is to be fully functional for 2020 boating season unless the state deems otherwise.** As of 5/18/2020 The State of Massachusetts has provided a firm guideline for boating activities in state waters. Launch services will resume May 25<sup>th</sup> under strict guidelines. The full list is posted on the town web site.

All town docks/piers will require face coverings at all times until you have properly disembarked or left the area. These areas will be marked with signs describing proper social distancing and it is up to the public to adhere to these requests in order to keep these access points open to our boaters/public.

All gangways are to allow returning (from sea) public to pass first with masks and 6ft social distance and only then, once clear shall departing public (from land) to pass onto docks. Docks will not allow loitering. Please be respectful of the people around you who want to use the docks to access launches, dinghy's or pick-ups/drop-off's. All docks will only allow for loading and unloading only. No vessel will be left unattended during tie-up. Docks and piers will also only be allowed to have no more than 10 people at one time, please be aware of the numbers. **Any Personal Protection Equipment that is left behind not properly disposed of will result in closure of the facilities. PLEASE adhere to proper disposal of your PPE so we can have a safe season.**

State Street North docks will be designated for commercial use only. State Street South docks are for general use.

My department will increase its presence as best we can to help with the difficult process we are face with. I ask for patience and courtesy to others to help with our challenges.

Shrink-wrap disposal will not have a recycling program this year due to lack of vendors to provide this service. The transfer station will take it for proper disposal.

The Harbormasters office has and will be closed to public visits but will maintain limited personnel to answer phones and conduct harbor administration.

I will try to provide weekly updates on the town website. If you have any questions please feel free to email the office and we will respond as quickly as possible.

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*“All things truly wicked start from innocence.”*

*Ernest Hemingway*

Thank You  
Marblehead Harbormaster  
Mark Souza