



Manchester-by-the-Sea Harbormaster
Harbormaster

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July 11, 2013

THE WATERLINE

Greetings Boaters,

Dinghy Rules

Many dinghies still do not have stickers or appropriate scope on the pennant. Failure to follow these regulations will result in removal of the offending dinghy.

Float Access Behind Town Hall

The ramp is in place behind town hall. Please use caution until the handrails are in.

Work Boat

The Carolina Skiff arrived this today and will be in service by sometime next week. The Boston Whaler with the old outboard will go out to bid shortly thereafter.

Dead Seals

Several reports of dead seals in the harbor have been received over the last two days. Marine mammal experts from the New England Aquarium advise no action be taken and to let nature take its course. Any attempt to move the carcass could cause it to break apart, creating more of a health risk.

Marine Mammals

Several incidents reported in the news reflect the importance of not disturbing seals on a beach. In one case a young seal died after being removed by people trying to help. The young seal was reported to be in good health until it was removed from its mother.

A **beached whale, dolphin or porpoise** should be reported immediately and left alone pending further instruction. **Call the New England Aquarium's 24-hour Marine Animal Hotline: (617) 973-5247.** Please try to remain calm and leave your name and a phone number where you can be reached.

Sea turtles in our region do not typically come ashore unless they are seriously debilitated. **Call the New England Aquarium's 24-hour Marine Animal Hotline: (617) 973-5247.** Please try to remain calm and leave your name and a phone number where you can be reached.

Seals belong on the beach. It's normal. Please don't disturb them. Unlike whales or dolphins, seals are semi-aquatic and are comfortable out of the water. Most seals come onto beaches to sleep, nurse or soak up some sun.

What should you do if you spot a seal on the beach?

Seals are cute, but they are wild animals and should not be disturbed. By getting too close, you could upset the seal or possibly get bitten.

- **Watch quietly** from at least 150 feet away.
- **Keep dogs away** from the seal.
- **Do not** offer the seal food or water.
- **Do not** pour water on the seal or try to cover it with a towel or blanket.
- **Do not** try to make the seal move.
- **Does the seal look injured or unhealthy?**

Most seals on the beach are perfectly healthy, but sometimes they do need human assistance. Does the seal have any **obvious injuries, gunky eyes, or look skinny or underweight**? If the seal does, please take notes on its location, size, coloring and behavior and call the New England Aquarium's Marine Animal Hotline at **(617) 973-5247.**

All marine mammals are protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act. This law makes it illegal to touch, disturb, feed or otherwise harass marine mammals without authorization.

Harbormaster Hours

Monday or Wednesday	8AM-5PM
Thursday	8AM-8PM
Friday	8AM-5PM
Saturday	8AM- 5PM
Sunday	8AM- 5PM

Due to meeting schedules Harbormaster days off will alternate each week from Tuesday and Wednesday to Monday and Tuesday. This schedule may change as need dictates. Feel free to call before coming to the office. The Harbormaster can be reached by cell phone (978) 473-2520.

Click the following link for your latest Local Notice to Mariner's.

<http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pdf/lnms/lnm01212013.pdf>. Be vigilant and notify the harbormaster of any missing or off station aids to navigation. The latest Manchester Harbor Rules & Regulations are posted on the Harbormaster website.

Stop by, say hi and don't forget your lifejacket! You can follow harbor happenings on the town website under Harbormaster or Facebook at Manchester Harbormaster Department. Updated as often as is practical.