



**Manchester-by-the-Sea Harbormaster**  
**Harbormaster**

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July 11, 2013

**THE WATERLINE**

Greetings Boaters,

**Tropical Depression**

Current forecast models place this disturbance off the Carolinas early Monday morning and it will likely bring several inches of rain to that region. Please pay attention to forecasts as track and intensity can change.

**Harbor Advisory Committee**

The Harbor Advisory Committee will be meeting this Monday July 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Massport mooring replacement will be on the agenda. A revised proposal from the legal department of Massport will be discussed. Potential changes to the Harbor Rules and Regulations will be presented as well.

**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.

**Floats and Ramps**

Repair and replacement of dinghy docks is underway. Tuck's Point will be the focus of initial upgrading. Virtually all the town floats need repair or to be replaced outright. This should take seven to eight years to complete. By replacing the very worst floats on a year by year schedule we will also spread out replacement so that we don't end up needing to replace them all at one time in the future.

Bids are coming to install the ramp behind town hall. Work may begin as early as this month.

## No-Wake Zone

The no-wake zone in Manchester extends out to the West end of the channel. A boater climbing onto his vessel after swimming fell due to boat wake and suffered a head injury this past Sunday. Just a reminder that we all need to be mindful of our wake.

## Work Boat

A replacement for the aged and waterlogged thirteen foot Boston Whaler is coming. A 2009 Carolina Skiff has been identified and will be purchased next week. The old thirty horse outboard has been replaced with a 2009 twenty horse four stroke with less than fifty hours on the meter. It is expected that this vessel will push floats and carry harbor masters around for at least ten years.

## Radios

Thanks to Jay Panetta for his kind donation to the Harbor Department of two handheld radios. We will put them to good use.

## Jellyfish

A large red jellyfish washed ashore this week on Singing Beach. In all likelihood it was a lion's mane jellyfish also known as a hair jelly. If you see one observe it from a safe distance as they do have a painful sting.

## 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.

