



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

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The Waterline

Manchester, Massachusetts – With no sign of winter in sight maybe you are looking at the shrink wrap on your boat and thinking about any early launch for 2012. Grab your mooring and/or waitlist information, come on down to town hall and visit me in the harbormaster office. We will update your file, get you some stickers and point you toward the marine supply store so spring fit-out can commence.

Moorings and Waitlists

It has been a pleasure to meet so many nice folks while doing mooring and waitlist renewals. I am looking forward to seeing you all on the water this coming summer. Renewals are proceeding nicely with a bit more than one third of the data collected, and a month and a half left to complete the process. Please remember, the cut-off date for mooring and waitlist renewal is March 31st. I would advise anyone who is going to be away or unable to come to the office to call me before the March 31st cut-off date.

I expect there to be many new mooring assignments in 2012. To date, a large number of moorings identified as abandoned or unused have been designated for reassignment. All the more reason to make sure your waitlist application is current! The audit performed last season by the prior Harbor Advisory Committee (HAC) and members of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) has been invaluable in identifying many of the moorings that will be reassigned this year. Thanks! I would also like to remind mooring holders to make sure your mooring is clearly marked with your designated mooring number. All unmarked moorings will be considered abandoned and reassigned.

Work to verify the change of location and mooring waitlists is ongoing. I will post both lists on the town website and the board outside my office by mid- March for public review. Feel free to check in and verify your place on the lists. This is an important step as all new mooring assignments will be from these lists only. Thanks to the current HAC for providing historical waitlist information and deciphering some of the content. Your time and support are much appreciated.

Excise 2BE-1 Forms

Good News! That vessel excise form you fill out every year for the assessor's office will now be filled out electronically when you complete your renewal of a slip or mooring. Simply sign and date the printed form provided by the harbormaster and an electronic copy will be delivered to the assessor. No more writer's cramp or digging around for vessel information, the information will remain in the database until you change vessels.

Safe Boating Course Offered

Thanks to Captain Ron Morin, a safe boating course will be offered this spring here in Manchester. The dates are May 14th, 16th, 21st, 23rd with a review and exam on the 30th. Contact the harbormaster's office after **MARCH 1st** to reserve a spot for this informative and important course. A safe boating certificate will be awarded upon successful completion of the course. Class size is limited.

Rules, Regulations and Office Hours

I encourage everyone to read the Harbor Rules and Regulations found on the town website. Office hours are Monday-Tuesday 8AM-4PM Thursday 8AM-7PM and Saturday 8AM-12PM through March. You may contact the harbormaster at any time by phone. For mooring, waitlist, boating and waterfront news, please check the Harbormaster website. Visit the Town website at www.manchester.ma.us and click on town departments, then harbormaster. Your input is always welcome. Send e-mail to harbormaster@manchester.ma.us.

Please note. I will be out of the office Saturday the 25th of February. The office will be open Wednesday the 22nd of February from 8AM -4PM instead. I apologize for any inconvenience.

Please stop by to say hello and don't forget your lifejacket.