

# DUXBURY BEACH RULES & REGULATIONS

## Limitation of Liability

1. The Town of Duxbury and Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc. accept no responsibility or liability for any personal injury or property damage sustained on Duxbury Beach (M.G.L. Ch. 21 Sec. 17C).
2. Entry upon or use of Duxbury Beach by any person by foot, bicycle, motor vehicle, boat, or horseback shall be at his own risk and such entry or use shall constitute a release by such person of the Town of Duxbury and Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc. from any and all claims for personal injury or property damage sustained on Duxbury Beach, and such release shall be binding upon such person, his personal representative, and all persons claiming through or under him.
3. All beach users must comply with the regulations and the request or instructions of the patrolling Harbormaster /Coastal Natural Resources personnel and /or police officers.

## Recreational Beach/Regulations

1. Walking. Walking is encouraged on Duxbury Beach. All persons, their animals, and vehicles must stay out of all dune, vegetated, marsh grass, posted bird or wildlife, and fenced areas. Use designated crossovers and pathways only.
2. Swimming. All persons swimming or bathing at Duxbury Beach do so at their own risk (see "Limitation of Liability" above). Lifeguards are on duty only in the designated life-guard / bathing area. The designated lifeguard / bathing area is defined as the ocean side of the beach directly east of the Powder Point Bridge, 100 yards either side of the stationary lifeguard stand (see map). Rafts, tubes, floatation equipment, face masks, and snorkeling and diving equipment are prohibited in the designated lifeguard / bathing area. Swimming in any other area of the beach is without lifeguard supervision. Swimming, diving, and jumping from the Powder Point Bridge are prohibited. No swimming is permitted in the boat channel adjacent to the bay side beach.
3. Boating. No vessels of any kind (motorboats, sailboats, sailboards, kayaks, jet skis, etc.) are permitted within 150 feet of the oceanside beach except in designated vessel access areas, or within 150 feet of

the bay side beach, 150 feet north and south of the Powder Point Bridge, In designated vessel access areas (a) all water skiing, swimming, and floatation devices are prohibited, (b) anchoring is permitted, and (c) vessels may proceed at steerage speed only.

4. Horseback Riding. Horseback riding requires a special permit that must be purchased from the receptionist at Town Hall. Riding is permitted daily, from sunrise to sunset, October through April. Riding is permitted sunrise to 9:00 am and 6:00 pm to sunset, May through September, weekdays only. All motor vehicle and parking regulations apply. Riders are responsible for removing all horse droppings from parking areas.
5. Shellfishing. Shellfishing requires a special permit that must be purchased from the receptionist at Town Hall. Motor vehicle access for this purpose must comply with all beach motor vehicle regulations.
6. Fishing. Fishing from the bridge is permitted on the side-walk side only, as long as it does not interfere with vehicular or pedestrian traffic. No fishing is allowed within the marked channel area, Fishing poles on the beach must be kept at the water's edge at all times, year-round, while in the act of fishing. Bait and carcasses must be removed.
7. Hunting and Shooting. Rabbit hunting is prohibited due to dune restrictions. Discharge of firearms is prohibited within 150 feet of roadways or 500 feet of a dwelling.
8. Facilities. Public restrooms, changing facilities, snacks, and telephones are available at the Duxbury Beach Park Bathhouse. (seasonal)

## General Beach Regulations

1. Drinking of alcoholic beverages is prohibited (Town Bylaw).
2. Dogs must be leashed and under immediate and effective control of handler at all times. (See also Special Dog Regulations on reverse side)
3. No sand, stone, vegetation, or other material may be re-moved, except for salt marsh hay or seaweed. Erosion control fencing or signs shall not be damaged or removed.
4. Store and discard trash properly, especially

food scraps. All beach refuse must be removed by the beach user. Littering and dumping of household trash are prohibited. Glass containers are not allowed.

5. Bonfires and campfires are prohibited. Only small cooking fires in a metal container are permitted. No materials may be added to a fire after 10 pm. All fires must be extinguished with water by 10:30 pm, and all fire remnants must be removed from the beach area by the beach user.
6. Overnight camping is prohibited. Unauthorized vehicles access is prohibited.
7. Fireworks are prohibited (They are illegal and cause dune fires).
8. Loitering in the beach parking lots is prohibited.
9. Beach functions of approximately 20 or more persons, or any other special event or research, require a special permit from the Harbormaster's office. Applications for permits shall be received at least one week prior to the proposed function.

## Motor Vehicle Beach Regulations

1. All vehicles must carry a copy of the Duxbury Beach Rules and Regulations pamphlet.
2. All vehicles parked on the beach property must purchase and visibly display a current Duxbury Beach permit. Vehicles parked in any paved parking area at the east end of the Powder Point Bridge must be visibly display a resident or rental resident beach lot permit from Memorial Day to Labor Day. All vehicles driving or parked in oversand areas or parked in roadside parking areas south of the Powder Point Bridge must visibly display a resident or nonresident oversand permit on a year round basis. Permit Location: Shall be affixed to the windshield, below mirror, never in tint. Unauthorized parking in all roadways, fire lanes, or vehicle crossovers is prohibited at all times. There are five types of Duxbury Beach permits;
  - Resident Beach Lot Permit for use of paved parking lots (valid April thru March)
  - Resident Oversand Permit for four wheel drive (4WD) vehicles in paved parking lots, oversand areas, and roadside parking areas, (valid April thru March)
  - Resident Off-Season Oversand Permit

- for four wheel drive (4WD) vehicles in oversand areas and roadside parking areas, (valid October thru April)
- Non-Resident Oversand Permit for four wheel drive (4WD) vehicles in oversand areas and roadside parking areas, (valid April thru March)
  - Non-Resident Off-Season Oversand Permit for four wheel drive (4WD) vehicles in oversand areas and roadside parking areas, (valid October thru April)
3. Permits are valid only for the vehicle for which they were purchased. The permit registration number must match the vehicle registration. Permits are nontransferable. (Original permit must be returned in order to receive a replacement due to sale of vehicle, windshield replacement, etc.)
  4. All other vehicles are prohibited, including motorcycles, minibikes, minicars, snowmobiles, paraglides, ATV's and ATC's (except when necessary for official use). No airplanes or helicopters are permitted to land on Duxbury Beach except in an emergency.
  5. All parking is on a first come, first serve basis. When parking capacities are reached, vehicle access restrictions will be imposed. Further restrictions may be imposed on the number of vehicles permitted on the beach properties at one time for public safety and access management.
  6. All oversand vehicles must be properly equipped before they are permitted on the beach. Vehicles may be inspected for the following equipment at any time: Lack of any of/all of these items may result in fines for each item missing
    - Shovel
    - Tow Rope, Tow Strap, or Chain
    - Spare Tire, Jack, and 18" square plywood support pad
    - Tires that are properly pressurized for beach conditions
  7. Resident Parking Area hours (weather permitting) are:
    - North Lot: 9:00 am to Sunset (Seasonal)
    - Sept.-April 9:00 am-Sunset (Off-Season)
    - South Lot: 6:00am to 11:30 pm
    - Sept.-April 6:00 am-Sunset (Off-Season)
  8. The oversand permit use hours are from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm (Seasonal May-Sept.) Further restrictions may be required for access management or public safety - Off Seasonal access shall apply
  9. Driving must be confined to designated routes and never in, the water, on or over

- dunes, vegetated, or marsh grass, and posted or fenced areas. Vehicles shall travel in established tracks. Vehicles shall park in an organized fashion in a manner that will not interfere with the established track or traffic flow. Vehicles driving off the beach shall have the right of way. Vehicles are not allowed in pedestrian, mud-flat/shellfish, or wildlife areas. No vehicle shall travel park within 10 feet of a sand fence, or symbolic string fence on the ocean side of the beach.
10. All vehicles must be operated for the safety and regard of the operator, vehicle occupants, pedestrians, and beach resources. Maximum speed on the Powder Point Bridge, vehicle turn around, paved parking areas, vehicle crossovers, and in designated oversand areas is 10 mph, conditions permitting; on the improved beach roadway, the maximum speed is 15 mph, conditions permitting. In any endangered species area, the maximum speed shall be reduced to 5 mph and traffic may be further restricted or stopped by the Department personnel for endangered species protection & management
  11. All persons must ride within the confines of any motor vehicle and must be seated. Riding on fenders, tailgate, or roof, or standing in the vehicle is prohibited.
  12. The roadway over the leased portion of the beach to Gurnet Gate is for use by oversand vehicles only. All Gurnet-Saquist traffic must use the roadway.

### **Special Dog Regulations**

The following rules shall be in effect on Duxbury Beach properties from April 1st to September 15th.

1. A dog on Duxbury Beach properties shall be at all times leashed and under immediate and effective control of it's handler. NOTE: "Immediate and effective control" is determined by Harbormaster/Coastal & Natural Resources Department personnel.
2. Any person wishing to take a dog onto Duxbury Beach properties shall register with the Town of Duxbury and obtain a permit. Registration and permits will be available at the Duxbury Town Hall between the hours of 8:00 AM. and 3:45 P.M., Monday through Friday. The permit must be carried by the handler of that dog at all times while the dog is on Duxbury Beach properties.
3. If in accordance with all rules and regulations, dogs are allowed on the Duxbury Beach properties between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and Sunset, unless these hours are amended by action of the Duxbury Harbormaster's Department. In all events, dogs are prohibited on Duxbury Beach properties between the hours of Sunset and 8:00 am.
4. Unless specifically amended by these rules or, if applicable, by action of the Duxbury Harbormaster/Coastal & Natural Resources Department, all other Duxbury, State or Federal Dog Control Regulations shall continue to apply. These include regulations under the "Special Dog Regulations contained within the General Beach and Motor Vehicle Regulations" pamphlet, Section 7.1 of the General by-laws of the Town of Duxbury, and Article 37 of the 2002 Duxbury Annual Town Meeting.
5. Dogs and their handlers are prohibited from all dune, vegetated, marsh grass, posted bird or wildlife areas, and all fenced areas.
6. Dog handlers are required at all times of the year to remove droppings from the Powder Point Bridge, beach parking lots and all beach areas.
7. All dogs are prohibited from the front beach, known as the Resident Beach, south to the poles delineating the start of the 4x4 beach. April 1st to September 15th\*.
8. All dogs are prohibited from the back beach north of the Powder Point Bridge adjacent to the Resident Parking Lot. April 1st to September 15th\*.
9. Dogs and their handlers are prohibited from disturbing any endangered species or wildlife on Duxbury Beach.
10. Any violation of these Rules & Regulations or Duxbury General By-Law or other Federal/State law may result in non-criminal and/or criminal process or provisions found in the Duxbury General By-Laws. Involving the revocation of the dog permit for the remainder of the season. If a dog permit is revoked, such revocation shall be recorded at the Duxbury Town Hall, and their immediate family will not be eligible to re-apply for another permit until the following year.