# Welcome to the Peconic Estuary!

The Peconic Estuary is an estuary of national significance and a vital coastal ecosystem essential to the environmental and economic well-being of the people in the surrounding communities.

Just 80 miles east of the hustle and bustle of New York City lies the unparalleled beauty and tranquility of Long Island's Peconic Estuary. A vital coastal ecosystem, the Peconic Estuary is abundant with animal and plant life. These natural resources are essential to the economic well-being and quality of life of the residents of eastern Long Island, as well as its visitors arriving by sea and land.

The Peconic Estuary watershed begins at the headwaters of the Peconic River, spans the several bays from Flanders to Gardiners, and ends in Block Island Sound between Plum Island and Montauk Point. Because of the Estuary's ecological health and socioeconomic significance, it is one of twenty-eight estuaries in the nation to receive the designation of "Estuary of National Significance" by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

While still resource rich, the water quality and habitat in the Peconic Estuary are degrading due to a variety of human activities and pollutants including boat waste, floatable debris, septic system discharges, agricultural and residential fertilization and illegal dumping. Please help protect, restore and enhance the Peconic Estuary to ensure a healthy and diverse marine ecosystem into the future. In this way together we can sustain the Estuary's recreational and commercial productivity for years to come and future generations.

#### The Peconic Estuary Protection Committee

Formed in 2015, the Committee is an inter-municipal affiliation dedicated to restoring and improving water quality in the Peconic Estuary. Our members are the Villages of Greenport, North Haven and Sag Harbor; the Towns of Brookhaven, East Hampton, Riverhead, Shelter Island, Southampton, and Southold; Suffolk County; and the New York State Department of Transportation. For further information contact: PeconicEstuary@gmail.com

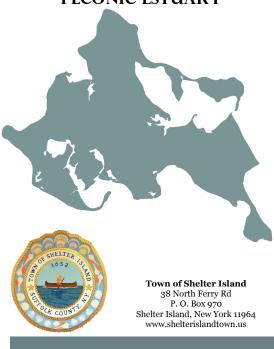
#### The Peconic Estuary Program

The Peconic Estuary Program (PEP) conserves and protects the Peconic Estuary through the implementation of the Peconic Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). The PEP is an innovative partnership of local, state, and federal governments, citizen and environmental groups, businesses and industries, and academic institutions. www.PeconicEstuary.org

# **SHELTER ISLAND**

# BOATERS' GUIDE

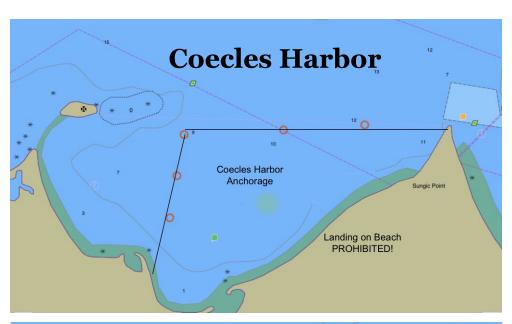
GUIDE TO
RESPONSIBLE AND SAFE
BOATING WITHIN
SHELTER ISLAND WATERS
AND THE
PECONIC ESTUARY

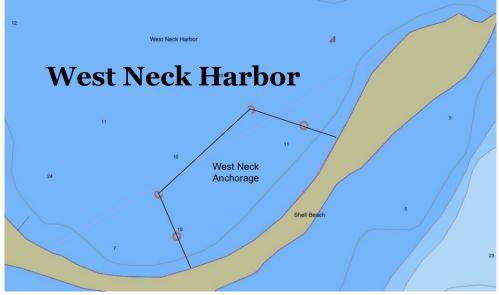


# TRANSIENT ANCHORAGE

Shelter Island Town Code §§ 128-5 and 128-6 allows overnight, transient anchoring not to exceed 48 hours in any 72-hour period in only 2 harbors: Coecles Harbor and West Neck Harbor, as shown below.

(May 15th to September 15th)
See Town Code for additional information.
http://ecode360.com/SH0746





## Dear Captain and Crew,

The Town of Shelter Island welcomes you to our beautiful island.

We hope you enjoy your stay. For your pleasure and convenience, we provide you with this easy guide to our area to facilitate your visit and help protect the waters of Shelter Island and the Peconic Estuary.

If you have any questions during your stay, here are some useful phone numbers and web sites.

#### **Town of Shelter Island**

- · www.shelterislandtown.us
- Shelter Island Town Clerk, 631-749-1166
- See Shelter Island Town Code for Boating, Waterways, Anchoring, and other related Town Codes.

http://ecode36o.com/SHo746

# Town of Shelter Island Police Dept.

- www.shelterislandpolice.us
- Nonemergency: 631-749-0600
- Emergency: 911

# **Bay Constable**

- Shelter Island Police, 631-749-0600
- Emergency: 911
- VHF Channel 16

## Town of Shelter Island Recycling Center

- · www.shelterislandhighwaydepartment.us
- Scale House: 631-749-2033

#### **Chamber of Commerce**

- www.shelterislandchamber.org
- Marine Services (fuel, mooring rental, dockage, repairs, ice, supplies, etc.) Restaurants, Local Businesses

#### **Shelter Island Reporter**

www.shelterislandreporter.timesreview.com

#### **Crescent Beach Water Taxi**

914-588-7202

#### **Personal Watercraft (PWC)**

- Prohibited from all creeks, beaches, and harbors except during transit to and from designated areas
- Cannot be operated between 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise
- Cannot be operated within 500 feet of any bathing area or shoreline
- Observe all speed regulations and restrictions, not to exceed 20 mph

#### Pump Out

- Coecles Harbor Marina & Boatyard, www.chmb.net, 631-749-0700
- Dering Harbor Marina, 631-749-0045
- Island Boat Yard, www.islandboatyard.com 631-749-3333
- Pump Out Boat, VHF Channel 73

#### **Shellfishing**

Licenses available to Shelter Island Town residents only

#### **Private Moorings**

Unauthorized use of private moorings is prohibited and a violation of Town Code

#### **Speed Limits**

- Boating speed limit is 5 mph within 100 feet of shore, a dock, pier, raft, float, an anchored or moored vessel and in the following Shelter Island creeks: West Neck Creek, Menantic Creek, Congdon's Creek, Gardiner's Creek, and Chase Creek.
- No boats shall exceed 45 mph in any Shelter Island waters.

# Waterskiing, Tubing

Waterskiing, tubing, and similar watersport activities must stay 300 feet away from any shoreline and must stay 150 feet away from any public or semipublic bathing beach or public dock.

#### **Mashomack Preserve**

Shore access and landings are prohibited along the shoreline of Mashomack Preserve

#### Trash Disposal

- Trash and recyclables can be disposed at the Town's Recycling Center
- Town disposal bags are available in 3 sizes and can be purchased at various local merchants, Town Hall, and the Recycling Center

# Sanitation — No Discharge Zone (NDZ)

The entire Peconic Estuary is designated Vessel Waste No Discharge Zone (NDZ), and Shelter Island waters are NDZ

# Dog Ordinance

- Dogs are not allowed on Town beaches
- Dogs must be leashed or muzzled
- Owners are responsible to clean up after their dogs

Crescent Beach Special Notice to Boaters Anchoring off Crescent Beach

Anchoring off Crescent Beach requires skill and vigilance. The water deepens quickly; the tide runs strong and produces a counter current; and the wind swirls down from the high cliff areas. Be aware that the current and/or wind may shift during your stay and your boat may swing in another direction. Leave sufficient room between you and your neighbor's vessel. If you go ashore, check your boat from time to time to be sure your anchor is holding.

### If you violate any of the restrictions below you may be issued a summons.

#### **Crescent Beach - Anchoring and Operating Restrictions**

<u>No motorized vessel operation</u> is allowed within the perimeter of the regulatory markers (white buoy marked with an orange diamond and a cross within the diamond). A summons will be issued if you transit this area at any speed. To drop off and pick up passengers you must stay out of this area, preferably to the east of the chain link fence on the eastern end of this area, by the bathrooms on the beach.

No anchoring within 400-feet of the main swim beach. The white regulatory markers are approximately 150-feet off shore. You need to triple that distance to stay well outside of the 400-feet restriction.

<u>Cable Crossing</u>. No anchoring over the cable crossing. Use the yellow **CABLE CROSSING** sign on the beach as a guide to keep away from this area. The cable runs on the seabed from Shelter Island to Conklin Point, Greenport, and is the only source of electricity for Shelter Island.

5 mph speed restriction within 100-feet of any anchored boat. You will see all manner of water activities in this area, swimmers, kayakers, stand up paddleboards, PWC, etc. When transiting this area, you must be cautious, which includes being vigilant and staying within the 5 mph speed limit. This restriction is strictly enforced.

NO PWC operation within 500-feet of the swim area unless going most direct route (90°) to or from the beach not to exceed 10 mph. If you are operating a PWC from your yacht, remember that each person operating must be over 14 and have a Safe Boating Certificate.

Stand up paddle boarders (SUPs) must have a PFD (personal flotation device, lifejacket) on the board, one for each person. For safety's sake, it is preferable that you wear your PFD. PFDs are required to be worn by children under 12 years of age.

Children under 12 years of age must wear a properly fitting PFD anytime they are out of the cabin.



(May 2016, SIPD)