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 socio-economic 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
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

**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

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**Personal Watercraft (PWC)**
- Prohibited from all coves, 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 baiting area or shoreline.
- Observe all speed regulations and restrictions, not to exceed 20 mph.

**Pump Out**
- Dering Harbor Marina, 631-749-0045
- Pump Out Boat, VHF Channel 73

**Shellfishing**
- Licenses available to Shelter Island Town residents only.

**Private Mooring**
- 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, boat, an anchored or moored vessel and in the following Shelter Island coves: West Neck Creek, Mastic River, Condogon’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 150 feet away from any public or shoreline, a dock, pier, raft, boat, an anchored or moored vessel and in the following Shelter Island coves: West Neck Creek, Mastic River, Condogon’s Creek, Gardiner’s Creek, and Chase Creek.
- No boats shall exceed 45 mph in any Shelter Island waters.
- No motorized vessel operation 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 offshore. You need to triple that distance to stay well outside of the 400-feet restriction.

**Cable Crossing**
- 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.

**Waters**
- Shallow water, float, and sail boats are prohibited from the 200-foot fishing area or shoreline.
- The entire Peconic Estuary is designated Vessel Waste No Discharge Zone (NDZ), and Shelter Island waters are NDZ.

**Sanitation — No Discharge Zone (NDZ)**
- This 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.

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Crescent Beach - Anchoring and Operating Restrictions

No motorized vessel operation 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.

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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 200-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.**