



# Coastal Waters and Harbor Ordinance Town of Stockton Springs, Maine

Adopted by the Town of Stockton Springs on June 1990

Revised November 1992

Revised March 11, 2000

Revised February 13, 2005

Revised June 14, 2008

Revised June 19, 2010

Revised June 16, 2012

Revised June 14, 2014

Revised June 13, 2015

Revised June 17, 2017

[Revised June 16, 2018](#)

Attested by: Christina Hassapelis  
Title: Town Clerk

Upon receipt of the application, each applicant will be notified within a reasonable length of time, in writing by the Harbormaster, of the action decided.

The Harbormaster has the authority to reject any mooring site or dinghy application, whether new or for renewal with justifiable cause.

No mooring or dinghy may be placed, moved or removed, without written permission of the Harbormaster.

All floats, both commercial and private, must be registered with the Harbormaster and shall conform to the specifications set forth in the appendices of this Ordinance. All Floats shall have a mooring that meets the minimum mooring specification of twice the size of the largest boat to be tied to the float. Each float will be assigned a number and shall display same.

The maximum allowable size for any float within the Harbor shall be twelve feet by twenty-four feet (12' x 24'). The maximum size for a tie up float shall be six feet by eighteen feet (6' x 18'). Tie up floats shall be moored at both ends. No more than two boats shall be tied to a float at any time, with the exception of dinghies. Floats shall be located in an area designated by the Harbormaster, at the Harbormaster's discretion. No float shall be used in any manner inconsistent with the conditions prescribed by the Harbormaster.

Requests for floats that exceed the maximum size allowed by this Ordinance shall be made in writing to the Harbor Committee for consideration.

- 7.2 An annual fee shall be levied by the Town for each mooring site or dinghy location, as set forth in the Application, License, Permit, and Other Fees Ordinance. The fee will be reviewed set annually by the Selectmen, upon recommendation by the Harbor Committee. The Selectmen will then recommend final approval at Town Meeting. Annual fees shall be received by the Town Office no later than April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. If the annual fee has not been received at the Town Office by April 30<sup>th</sup>, a late fee ~~of~~ \$50 per mooring will be assessed. If mooring and late fees are not paid in full by May 31<sup>st</sup>, the mooring site and mooring hardware will be considered abandoned. The Harbormaster shall attempt to contact the unpaid mooring owner using current Town official notification protocol. If the mooring fees remain unpaid following this notification procedure, the mooring hardware will become the property of the Town of Stockton Springs. Mooring site fees are not refundable.
- 7.3 The Harbormaster will maintain a Chart of the Harbor showing current mooring and dinghy locations, assignments, anchorages, and designated zones.
- 7.4 The Harbormaster shall maintain a written record of the basic information on each mooring and dinghy including assigned location, identifying number, vessel description, owner's name and residency, and any additional data deemed useful.

- 7.5 Each mooring shall be assigned an identifying number which must be marked in legible fashion on the marker buoy or log in block numerals at least three (3) inches high and of contrasting color. Moorings associated with the yacht club shall also be marked with the suffix "YC" after the number. Dinghies shall be marked with the name of the vessel owner and/or the name of the moored vessel that the dinghy is a tender to. This marking shall be readily visible from the Town Dock adjacent to the dinghy location. Fixed water objects such as lobster cars, floats, scow, etc. will be equipped with reflective tape at least four (4) inches in diameter or width, visible from all angles (sides), installed and maintained at least four (4) feet above the water line. All such objects shall be securely moored and marked so as to cause no hazard to navigation, and be no threat to the property of others. Name and license number of the owner shall be carved or burned into a main structural member.
- 7.6 All moorings shall conform to Town of Stockton Springs Mooring System Requirements, attached hereto as Appendix A. All mooring systems shall be approved by the Harbormaster prior to being placed. Vessel and/or mooring owners shall be liable for any damage caused by faulty, inadequate, or improperly designed or placed moorings.

In view of the fact that the locations outside the harbor are less protected than locations inside the harbor, the Harbormaster may require heavier gear and more scope for safety purposes.

## 7.7 TRANSFER OF REGISTRATION

- 7.7.1 ~~Mooring site registrations and dinghy locations are not transferable without prior approval of the Harbormaster. A Stockton Springs resident may re-assign his mooring site or dinghy location to an immediate family member provided that the recipient is a resident of the Town of Stockton Springs and the mooring meets the requirements of Section 7.6 of this Ordinance.~~  
The assignment or use of a mooring location shall not be transferable, except that, upon the death of the assignee, that location may be transferred to a member of the assignee's immediate family, only if the mooring assignment was and will be used for commercial fishing purposes (32 M.R.S.A. § 3-A.

- 7.7.2 The Harbormaster shall be notified and give written approval prior to the transfer of mooring hardware.
- 7.7.3 In the event that a different vessel owned by the same owner is to utilize an existing mooring, such change shall be approved by the Harbormaster prior to the new vessel being placed on that mooring.

2. Shorefront owner's request for location immediately adjacent to frontage (Riparian Rights).
3. Resident owners of fishing vessels (as defined in Section 18 of this Ordinance).
4. Resident owners of commercial (non fishing) vessels.
5. Resident pleasure vessel owners.
6. Non-resident owners of fishing vessels (as defined in Section 18 of this Ordinance).
7. Commercial operators with rental moorings, subject to the approval of the Harbor Committee.
8. Non-resident owners of commercial (non-fishing) vessels.
9. Non-resident pleasure vessel owners.
10. Vessel owners with multiple locations.

7.11.2 At any time, at the recommendation of the Harbormaster to the Harbor Committee, the capacity of the Harbor can be declared full. At such time, the Harbormaster shall maintain a list of all applicants as per the precedence list under 7.11.1 that have not been assigned a mooring site for that year, but want to remain eligible for a future mooring site. To remain on the wait list, each applicant must up-date their request in writing annually prior to April 1<sup>st</sup> and pay a wait list fee, per the Application, License, Permit, and Other Fees Ordinance ~~as set by the Selectmen~~. If an applicant refuses a mooring site when offered one, he/she may either choose to be dropped from the list or go to the bottom of the list. If a wait list is in place, the Harbormaster, in conjunction with the Harbor Committee may impose a limit on the number of non-commercial mooring sites permitted to each individual. The wait list will be available for viewing at the Harbormaster's office or the town Office during normal working hours.

7.11.3 More than one (1) commercial mooring site may be owned and used for year- round purposes as deemed appropriate by the Harbormaster pursuant to Section 7.10.2 of this Ordinance.

7.11.4 Status to moor in a designated area may be questioned or determined at any time by the Harbormaster. Appeal may be made to the Town Manager necessary.

7.11.5 No mooring site or dinghy space shall be granted or renewed until all current and previously owed fees, including excise fees, mooring site fees, and penalties have been received by the Town Office.

7.11.6 Future mooring site or dinghy assignments will be on an availability basis and will be granted in a manner consistent with Precedence as defined in Section 7.11.1 (See Title 38 MRSA).