Quick Reference Guideline to the Town of Harpswell
Shellfish Ordinance for April 2013 - March 2014
Shellfish Licenses

- Each person must obtain a license from the Town Clerk’s Office and the
  license must be on the person while digging
- Minimum clam size requirement: \textbf{2 inch}
- Minimum quahog size requirement: \textbf{1 inch} (hinge width)
- Maximum amount of shellfish: The license entitles the holder to dig, take and
  possess no more than one peck of soft-shell clams or one peck of quahogs or one peck
  of a combination of soft-shell clams and quahogs per day for personal use.

\textit{False information on a license application is a violation}
\textit{Applicants must notify Town Clerk of any address change within 10 days}
\textit{1 Pecks = 1/4 Bushel = 2 Gallons = 8 Quarts}

Clam-flats and coves may be closed for the taking/possessing of shellfish periodically
for any of the following reasons:

\textbf{CLOSURE:}
\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{Pollution}: Contaminated due to animal or human fecal coliform bacteria.
  \item \textbf{Conservation}: Due to efforts to replenish or re-seed an area.
  \item \textbf{Red Tide}: Dangerous paralytic shellfish poison caused by algae that
    Contains this toxin. Toxins affect humans by paralyzing the
    Central nervous system, and, in high doses can cause death.
  \item \textbf{Rainfall}: Due to a substantial amount of rainfall received.
  \item \textbf{Seasonal}: Regulated by marine resource committee and D.M.R.
\end{itemize}

- Refer to shellfish ordinance for rules and regulations.

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{Shellfish sanitation hotline} = 1-800-232-4733
  \item \textit{Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office} = 1-800-501-1111
  \item \textit{Town Clerk’s Office} = 833-5822 or 833-5771
  \item www.maine.gov/dmr/rm/public_health/closures/closedarea.htm
\end{itemize}

The shores and islands of the Town of Harpswell are patrolled by the Cumberland
County Sheriff’s Department irregularly and without notice. Violation of the
shellfish ordinance is a crime. \textit{Violators may be arrested}

\textit{THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION}