

Town of York Shellfish Conservation Commission 2025/2026 Clamming Season

Thank you for purchasing a clamming license for the 2025/2026 clamming season. Below are the details for this season.

Please note the following:

Please be aware of the areas around the Wiggly Bridge that are closed for marsh grass restoration.

During the months of March and April, please stay at least 300 yards away from the Osprey nest located on the northern side of Seabury Gut.

Please do not dig in areas that have marsh grass roots.

If you are digging in the Brave Boat Harbor area, please be aware that you are walking through fragile marsh grass. Please try not to damage the marsh grass by walking in other diggers paths.

Who can dig?

Only persons holding a 2025/2026 York clamming license may dig soft shell clams (steamers) in the Town of York.

When can I dig?

Digging is allowed on Sundays only, from October 1, 2025 through April 28, 2026. You can dig between published sunrise and sunset. Digging normally occurs two hours either side of low tide.

Where can I dig?

Please check the Shellfish Sanitation Hotline prior to digging:

<https://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/maps/index.html>

Approved areas: Open as of October 1st.

Brave Boat Harbor
West of Sewalls Bridge to Rams Head Point

Conditionally approved areas: Open as of December 1st.

York River east of Sewalls Bridge
Wiggly Bridge / Barrells Mill Pond
Seabury Gut

Closed areas:

Prohibited and Restricted Areas
York River west of Rams Head Point
Cape Neddick River
Short Sands Beach
Long Sands Beach

Why are some areas closed?

Some areas are closed due to pollution.

What type of clams can I dig?

Soft shell clams require a Town of York license. Mussels and Surf / Hen clams do not.

What is the minimum size for soft shell clams?

2 inches measured lengthwise is the minimum size.

How many soft shell clams may be kept per person per day?

1 Peck = $\frac{1}{4}$ Bushel = 2 Gallons = 8 Quarts

What can I dig with?

Short handled clam rakes must be used. Shovels, pitchforks or other long-handled tools will break the clams and are not allowed.

What are In-Season Closures?

It may be necessary to close certain areas due to pollution and Red-Tide. The State of Maine regularly samples water in York for the above.

The State will close the flats if rainfall exceeds 2" within a 24 hour period. Please check the DMR web site if there has been a heavy rainfall in this area.

It is your responsibility to call the Shellfish Sanitation Hotline before digging to verify that the flats are open. The hotline number is:

1-800-232-4733

You may also check the DMR Web Site at:

http://www.maine.gov/dmr/rm/public_health/closures/shellfishhotline.htm

And a map that shows where you can dig at:

<https://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/maps/index.html>

Thank you for your support of the Town of York's shellfish program.
Good luck clamping!