

Plymouth Long Beach is a barrier beach approximately three miles in length. It's a dynamic, ever-changing environment that offers storm damage protection and flood control for our harbor, important wildlife habitat, and a multitude of recreational opportunities.

The health and continued existence of the dune system depend on the ability of the beach to stabilize and rebuild dunes after natural erosion events. Beach grass and other dune plants have fibrous root systems that physically stabilize and help build dunes. These roots are easily damaged by foot and vehicle traffic. Please help protect the dunes by not walking or driving on or over the dunes or fragile vegetated areas.

Seasonally, Plymouth Long Beach is home to a wide variety of shorebirds and other wildlife. Local, state, and federal laws protect the wildlife, its natural habitat, and other wetland resource areas. All other areas are available to the public. However, in some areas, both wildlife and recreational use of Plymouth Long Beach must coexist.

The Plymouth Long Beach Management Plan was developed to balance recreational uses with wildlife habitat needs. The Plan divides the beach into four management zones. Please refer to the map and written description for the activities that are allowed in each zone. Areas that are protected for wildlife, its habitat or for protection of fragile areas are delineated by wire cable, symbolic fencing (indicated by string, stakes, and flagging), and/or signs, and are closed to all recreational activities.

In part, the success or failure of Plymouth Long Beach may in fact depend on our actions, so please respect and adopt the information contained within this pamphlet.

## TOWN OF PLYMOUTH



Department of  
Marine and Environmental Affairs  
26 Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360  
(508)747-1620 x10127  
[www.plymouth-ma.gov](http://www.plymouth-ma.gov)

Questions concerning Plymouth Long Beach may be referred to the above office or the offices listed below:

Board of Selectmen	747-1620	x10106
Recreation Division	747-1620	x10137
Conservation Commission	747-1620	x10139
Parks Division	830-4162	x12116

### EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In the event of an emergency please contact on-site personnel (Plymouth Police, lifeguards, Natural Resources Officers and staff, parking attendants), and contact the appropriate office below.

Police Department	911 or (508)746-1212 Non-emergency 830-4220
Fire Department	911 or (508)746-2211 Non-emergency 830-4213
Harbormaster	830-4182, Police Dept., and channel 16 VHF radio

# PLYMOUTH LONG BEACH

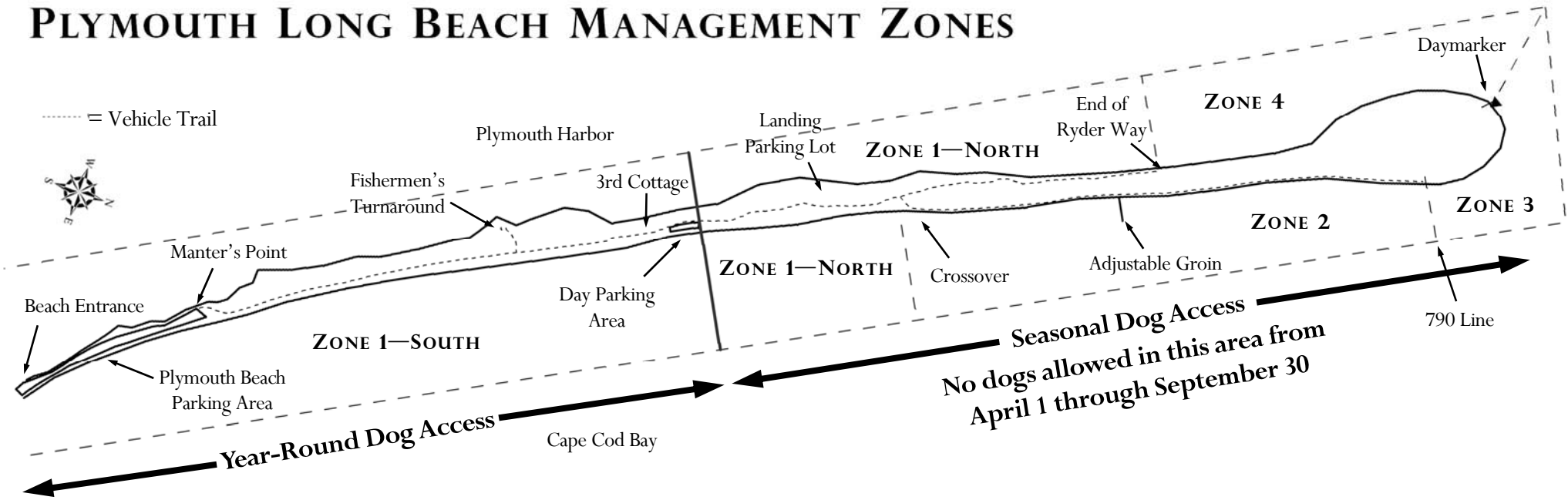
## RULES & REGULATIONS



TOWN OF PLYMOUTH  
Department of  
Marine and Environmental Affairs

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# PLYMOUTH LONG BEACH MANAGEMENT ZONES



## ZONE 1

**Location:** Southern zone, includes Plymouth Beach Parking Area, Manter's Point northerly to the 4-wheel drive Crossover access point (beachside) and from the Eel River northerly to the end of Ryder Way (harborside).

**Permitted Activities:** All activities allowed as stated under general rules and regulations and Town Bylaws. Parking is permitted only within designated areas. No overnight camping. For purposes of dog management, Zone 1 is divided into two sub-zones. Leashed dogs under control of their owners are allowed year round in Zone 1-South which extends from the Main Parking Area to the Day Parking Area. In Zone 1-North, dogs are banned seasonally from April 1 to September 30.

## ZONE 2

**Location:** Northeastern zone, includes the Crossover northerly to a line approximately 790 feet south of the stone jetty at the northeast end of Long Beach.

**Permitted Activities:** All activities allowed as stated under general rules and regulations and Town Bylaws. A maximum limit of 225 vehicles may be allowed north of Manter's Point at any one-time period, when tidal conditions and shorebird nesting allow. No kite flying or overnight camping within 200 yards of any active Piping Plover or Least Tern nest. Vehicles must travel within the ORV corridor delineated by posts and signs. Travel over the tidal flats is not permitted. Parking is permitted only within designated areas. Keep the travel corridor open at all times for emergency access. Overnight camping allowed by permit only (see camping information inside). Leashed dogs under control of their owners are allowed only from October 1 to March 31.

## ZONE 3

**Location:** Northern zone, includes a line approximately 790 feet south of the stone jetty at the north east end of Long Beach continuing northwest to the navigational Daymarker located at the point.

**Permitted Activities:** All activities allowed as stated un-

der general rules and regulations and Town Bylaws. Closed seasonally (April 1 to Sept 30) to all vehicle traffic. No kite flying during this time period. Pedestrian and boat traffic are allowed into this vehicle-restricted area. No overnight camping allowed. Absolutely no activities are allowed within bird nesting sites. Leashed dogs under control of their owners are allowed only from October 1 to March 31.

## ZONE 4

**Location:** Northwestern zone, includes the navigational Daymarker located at the point south to the northern end of Ryder Way.

**Permitted Activities:** All activities allowed as stated under general rules and regulations and Town Bylaws. Closed to all vehicles year-round. Open to pedestrian and boat traffic. No kite flying during the period of April 1 to Sept 15. No overnight camping allowed. Leashed dogs under control of their owners are allowed only from October 1 to March 31.

# PLYMOUTH LONG BEACH RULES & REGULATIONS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Crossover gate is open 9am to 7pm seasonally. Ryder Way closes to vehicles at 9pm, except for authorized vehicles.

Lifeguards are not available beyond the Plymouth Beach area. There are no bathroom facilities on Long Beach except the bath house at Plymouth Beach.

Vehicle access to Long Beach may be restricted during times of above average and extreme high tides and shorebird closures or when vehicle limits have been reached as well as any unforeseen emergency. An average high tide is 9.5 feet. In general, tides 10.5 feet in height or more can be considered extreme. Please refer to a tide calendar to identify extreme high tides. Daily vehicle limits are updated on the Department of Marine & Environmental Affairs page (DMEA) at [www.plymouth-ma.gov](http://www.plymouth-ma.gov).

## DRIVING AND SAFETY TIPS

Check to make sure your vehicle is in 4-wheel drive before entering soft sand. If you have trouble operating your 4x4 in the soft sand, try reducing tire air pressure, which can usually be lowered to 15-25 psi safely. This allows the tires to “float” on the sand as opposed to plowing through it. Your ground clearance may be lower as a result of “airing down”. Fill tires to normal tire pressure shortly after leaving the beach.

Please drive as far to the right as possible in those areas where on-coming vehicles can pass beside you. In those areas where only one vehicle can pass, those vehicles leaving the beach have the right of way.

When driving on the beach north of the Crossover stay in the well-defined travel corridor at all times.

When driving in the soft sand, keep vehicle speed to 10 mph or less and use a lower gear. Driving fast only increases chances of getting stuck or losing control of your vehicle. In soft sand, keep your front tires as straight as possible to reduce the “plowing effect”.

Recommended equipment: a good jack, 18”x18”x3/4”

If a Sticker-holder, or their guest, violates the Beach Management Plan more than two times in a calendar year, the DMEA Director, or his designee, shall revoke the sticker for the remainder of the calendar year.

The DMEA Director, and/or his designee, may, in their discretion, immediately suspend or revoke a Beach Sticker for violation(s) of the Management Plan that threaten the health or safety of persons, property, or wildlife.

1. All vehicles using Plymouth Long Beach must display the proper sticker. No admittance to the beach areas will be allowed without it.
2. Many species of plants and wildlife are found in dune areas where vegetation plays a vital role in stabilizing the dunes from natural erosion. Therefore, all people, as well as their animals and vehicles, including bicycles, must stay out of every dune, vegetated and fenced-off area.
3. Driving of all 4-wheel drive vehicles must be confined to the designated travel corridor. Driving is not permitted on dunes or tidal flats per the MA Department of Environmental Protection.
4. All vehicles must drive with respect for the safety of others. The 10 mph speed limit is strictly enforced.
5. Respect for personal property is required on Plymouth Long Beach. Do not park on private property (both the beach and harbor sides).
6. Extend the right of way on the outer beach at all times. Vehicles leaving the beach have the right of way where 2-way traffic is impossible. Stay in the travel corridor while allowing vehicles to pass.
7. Rubbish barrels are provided in the main parking area for the proper disposal of all litter. Burying of rubbish is prohibited.
8. Keep noise from radios and amplifiers to a minimum.
9. The removal of sand, rocks, vegetation and fenc-

Manter’s Point shall be four-wheel-drive vehicles.

10. Overnight camping is prohibited without a permit issued by the DMEA, based on policies approved by the Board of Selectmen, and shall be restricted to Plymouth residents and taxpayers and their guests.
11. Glass containers of any kind are prohibited.
12. Cooking fires contained in grills are permitted, based on policies approved by the Board of Selectmen. Coal hibachis and/or grills are prohibited.
13. No open fires will be allowed without permits from both DMEA and Plymouth Fire Department.
14. All persons using public beaches do so at their own risk.
15. The operator of a stuck vehicle is responsible for filling in ruts and holes caused by said vehicle and for removing all related debris.
16. Riding on fenders, tailgate, roof or any other unenclosed exterior portion of any vehicle is prohibited.
17. Limitations may be placed by the DMEA Director, the Police Chief or the Environmental Technician and their designees on the number of vehicles allowed on any beach at any one time or on the location of allowed parking.
18. Parked vehicles shall keep the pedestrian and vehicular rights-of-way open at all times.
19. No hunting or firearms are allowed within any beach except for properly licensed hunters during the migratory waterfowl open hunting season.
20. Town beaches are open from dawn to dusk. Except for private property owners on Plymouth Beach, their guests, or fishermen who are residents or taxpayers of Plymouth or overnight campers with the required permit, Plymouth Beach and its parking lot shall be closed to all vehicles between the hours of 9:00pm and 4:00 am.
21. No person shall block any road or any pedestrian or vehicular trail by means of sporting equip-

piece of plywood (to place under jack), shovel, tow strap or chain, and any other item that will assist in freeing a stuck vehicle.

## **DOGS**

A partial seasonal dog ban is in effect. Dogs are banned from Town properties located north of the Day Parking Area (Zones 1—North, 2,3 and 4) from April 1 through September 30. Leashed dogs under control of their owners are allowed in Zone 1—South year round on the beach, road, and harborside.

## **KITES**

Kites, including for kiteboarding, are not allowed within 200 yards of active Piping Plover or Least Tern nests, so only limited areas may be open for kite flying during certain periods of the summer. The Natural Resources staff can direct you to areas where kites may be flown.

## **DRONES**

Drones and other Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) are subject to the kite regulations above, and are subject to the same fines. In accordance with Academy of Model Aeronautics safety practices, drones should not be flown within 25 feet of people, vehicles, buildings, animals, or infrastructure, and should be kept within eyesight distance at all times. Please contact the DMEA office to ensure compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

## **CAMPING**

Camping is allowed during a 6 night period each season. Camping dates are affected by shorebird nesting activity and are not determined until early to mid-July. Permits are issued for a 2 night period and are awarded by lottery. For more information on camping and how and when to apply, go to the DMEA page at [www.plymouth-ma.gov](http://www.plymouth-ma.gov).

## **MANAGEMENT PLAN REGULATIONS**

Plymouth Long Beach Management Plan Violations:

Fine Schedule: First violation: Warning  
Second violation: \$50  
Third violation: \$100

ing, as well as damage to any Long Beach property, is prohibited.

10. Over the Crossover, vehicles may park only on Town property in areas designated by green flagging tape on the symbolic twine fencing. Red flagging marks areas where parking is not allowed.
11. Parking along Ryder Way is permitted only in areas designated by parking signs.

## **BYLAWS FOR LONG BEACH**

From Chapter 30: Beaches & Parks:

1. Only taxpayers and residents of Plymouth and their guests with proper beach stickers shall be allowed with vehicles on Plymouth Beach north of Manter's Point.
2. No motorcycles, minibikes, minicars, or all-terrain vehicles shall be allowed. No horses shall be allowed between Memorial Day and Labor Day.
3. All domestic animals shall be under control at all times. Dogs are to be leashed and their waste removed in accordance with Ch. 23, Sect. 4 & 14.
4. Walking or driving is restricted to designated trails and roads only. No person shall walk, drive any vehicle or ride a horse on the sand dunes or grassy areas or over any other type of vegetation.
5. Dumping (the deposit or leaving of household or commercial trash) is prohibited. Littering (the leaving of all other trash except in designated Town receptacles) is also prohibited.
6. No vehicle shall be allowed to pass on the east side of Plymouth Beach south of the Crossover between Memorial Day and Labor Day, except in the case of an emergency or the established rights of Plymouth fishermen.
7. No vehicles, other than those owned by the property owner, shall be parked on private property on any Plymouth Beach or parked without the written consent of that property owner.
8. No vehicle shall exceed a speed of 10 miles per hour while driving on any portion of the beach.
9. All vehicles driven on Plymouth Beach north of

ment/games, four-wheel-drive vehicles, campers or other vehicles, or tents which would impede the normal flow of beach traffic.

22. Violations shall be subject to the following penalties: first offense \$25, second offense \$50, third & subsequent \$100. Violations of 30-4 or 30-8: first offense \$100, second & subsequent within 12 month period \$100 and sticker suspended for one year. Violations of 30-5: Littering \$50, Dumping first offense \$100, subsequent offenses \$500

## **OTHER PERTINENT BYLAWS**

- No dogs shall be permitted in any street or public place unless it is accompanied by an owner, keeper or other responsible person and effectively restrained by a chain or leash not exceeding six feet in length, 24 hours per day. Penalties: first offense - \$25, second offense - \$50, succeeding - \$75. (Ch.23, Sect.4 – Leash Required)
- It shall be the duty of each person who owns, possesses or controls a dog to remove and dispose of any feces left by his/her dog on any sidewalk, street, park or other public area. Penalty: \$50 for each occurrence (Ch.23, Sect.14 – Canine Waste Removal)
- No person shall drink any alcoholic beverages while in or upon any public way or any way to which the public has a right of access. Penalty: \$50 each offense. (Ch.18, Sect.1 – Alcoholic Beverages)
- Any person who causes unnecessary noise by singing, yelling, playing of musical instruments, playing of radios, etc. that is plainly audible at a distance of 150 ft is in violation of this Bylaw. Penalty: \$50. (Ch.120, Sect.1&2 – Noise)
- The established rights of fishermen protect their gear from destruction, injury and theft, including gear washed up on any public or private beach or shore after a storm. Please respect fishermen's rights by not removing any lobster pots, line or buoys at any time. (MGL, Ch.130, Sect.31&32).