



Tisbury Shellfish Department

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April 2023:

This month, we got the shellfish boat back in the Lagoon, prepared and launched most of the old crab traps in the ponds. Brought in the scallop cages from the Lagoon as part of an overwintering experiment. This will be tweaked for the following winter as we did experience high mortality, but there were some survivors, where they were returned to the designated eelgrass area in the Lagoon. The family and prohibited lines were cleaned up and repositioned after the winter. Worked with TACO and OBACO with the adding of Canada goose eggs around Hines Point. Both Oak Bluffs and Tisbury participated in the Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group's educational program teaching the Tisbury 8th graders about quahogging and the biology aspect of being a shellfish constable. I also attended a presentation at the Oak Bluffs Library 4/26 about the importance of eelgrass, put on by Alley McConnel, Vision Fellow, and Special Projects Coordinator: MVSG. Her talk was based on the experimental eelgrass areas in Lagoon. 4/22 Earth Day, and the beach cleanup, once again volunteers did a great job picking up trash from around the pond, and all the island beaches for that matter. The Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group gave out the first batch of early scallops on 4/24, the following day they spawned quahogs.

Housekeeping: started preparing for the season, preparing for meetings, office stuff, working on boat and gear.

Tisbury Shellfish CY 2023	
	As of April 30, 2023
Bay Scallops	
Quahogs	189.5
Soft Shell Clams	7

Permits Sold Month of April 2023	
Shellfish Permits (26)	\$275
Gauges (3)	\$15

Submitted by Danielle Ewart, Tisbury Shellfish Constable