

Northport Village Corporation (NVC) Waterfront Regulations (Wharf Area and Cradle Yard Park)

Wharfmaster: The wharfmaster is in charge of NVC's waterfront area. Questions about use, etc. of the waterfront area and Cradle Yard Park should be directed to him/her. Call the NVC office (207-338-0751) and leave a message for questions.

Intoxicating Liquors and Drugs: Public use of intoxicating liquors and drugs is prohibited by law in accordance with the statutes of the State of Maine.

Fishing: Fishing is allowed on the south side of the wharf (south of the ladder) and from the south (boat) float, but not between the hours of 11-5 PM on any Saturday, Sunday, or holidays during July and August, unless approved by the wharfmaster or lifeguards. During inclement weather, etc., permission may be given to fish during these hours. Boats entering the fishing area or landing at the boat float always have the right-of-way over fishing activities. Absolutely no fishing is allowed from the north side of the wharf when there are swimming activities going on. Fishing is prohibited from the swim float. Casting is subject to the approval of the lifeguard and/or wharfmaster. Fish bait must be kept in a container and confined to the fishing area on the boat float or south end of dock. Fishermen must assume responsibility for the cleanup of their area.

Hours: The wharf is closed between 11 PM and 6 AM except to boat owners and Bayside residents.

Swimming: Swimming is to be confined to the north shore area, swimming float, and the north half of the wharf (from the ladder north). Swimming is not permitted from the south side of the dock and/or boat float. Swimmers use the Village dock and swim float at their own risk.

Boats: Boats (including sail boats, power boats, kayaks, rafts, canoes, etc.) landing at the wharf are to be confined to the south boat float and, when underway, should stay out of the swimming areas. Boats may use the front of the wharf for maintenance/repairs for short periods of time (i.e., < 1 hour) with lifeguard and/or wharfmaster permission. The outer (east) side of the boat float should be used only for loading and unloading. Boats should not remain for extended periods of time (10 minutes maximum) while others are waiting, nor be left unattended. Water-skiers may not take off or land at either float and must stay out of the anchorage, dock entrance way, and swimming areas.

Miscellaneous Vehicles: Bicycles, motorcycles, motor scooters, scooters, skateboards, roller blades, motor vehicles, etc. are prohibited on the wharf. They may be left on the side of the causeway for short periods of time at the owner's risk. Wheelchairs and strollers are permitted on the wharf.

Dogs: Unleashed dogs and other animals are prohibited from the wharf and wharf area. Leashed dogs under the control of their masters are permitted. Masters/owners are responsible for the immediate cleanup of dog waste.

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Behavior: No running, pushing, shoving, or roughhousing is allowed on the wharf or floats. Profanity will not be tolerated anywhere on the waterfront area or the wharf. The lifeguard, wharfmaster, and/or other Village officials, as well as law enforcement personnel, have the authority to remove people from the waterfront area, including the wharf, for behavioral issues/problems.

Trash: Each person using the waterfront area is responsible for removing his/her own refuse and trash. We all need to do our part to help keep the dock area and park clean!

Lifeguard: The Village hires a lifeguard for duty on the wharf from approximately July 1st to Labor Day. The lifeguard is hired to primarily oversee swimming activities, but also oversee other dock activities. In a nutshell, the lifeguard (along with the wharfmaster) has jurisdiction and authority over most all activities on the wharf, including activities on and around the boat float. Young children should be accompanied by an adult, and it is recommended that they wear an appropriate life jacket. The rules and regulations for wharf use are posted on the wharf.

Harbormaster: The Harbormaster for the Town of Northport can be contacted at 207-338-3819.

Moorings: All moorings in Northport/Bayside require a permit. The Town of Northport issues annual mooring permits to residents and/or property taxpayers for a fee of \$25.00. Non-residents/non-taxpayers are charged \$125.00 annually for mooring permits. For more information on mooring-related issues, contact the Town of Northport Harbormaster.

Cradle Yard Park: Cradle Yard Park on Grove Street between Clinton and Pleasant Streets may be used by Village residents for winter seasonal storage of small boats (approximately September through June) and for the summer seasonal storage of trailers and cradles (approximately May through October). The owner's name and phone number should be clearly indicated on the cradle/trailer/boat. Boat and trailer placement will be at the discretion of the wharfmaster, so please check with the wharfmaster prior to placing something there for storage. Storage is at the owner's risk. The NVC assumes no responsibility for damage, loss, etc. of anything stored in this area. This area may also be used for seasonal overflow automobile parking but not long-term storage. This area is not intended to serve as a long-term storage yard.

Winter Boat Storage: Winter boat storage along the waterfront/parking area located at the foot of Ruggles Park is subject to the approval of the wharfmaster. Historically, storage of up to six privately owned sailboats up to 30' in length setting on cradles (and in some instances large trailers) has been approved by the wharfmaster and Village. Storage of up to three Northport Yacht Club (NYC) keel sailboats has also been historically approved by the wharfmaster and NVC. This revision allows for up to three private boats and two club boats to be stored in this manner if approved, and a storage fee must first be paid to the NVC. Such fee has historically been waived for the NYC boats. All stored boats and/or cradles must be removed from the park by the last weekend in June, although the wharfmaster may use some discretion on this matter depending on the circumstances. All efforts should be made to have stored boats, etc. out of this area by the 4th of July. Boats may be hauled/stored for the offseason/winter on or after the last weekend of September, or an alternate date set at the discretion of the wharfmaster (i.e., possibly

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due to impending inclement weather conditions, storms, hurricanes, etc.). Bottom line is that this area is not intended to be an alternative to a true boatyard for residents, but historically boats were hauled and stored in this area and, in some instances, permission will be given to residents to store their boats in this area once again as long as certain guidelines are followed and the wharfmaster approves of the plan.

Dinghy/Float Rules

Use of the wharf and/or floats (swim float, dock boat float, and moored out-float) is a privilege, and not necessarily a right. Please use common sense and be considerate of others. Dinghies tied to NVC float(s) are done so at the owner's risk. The NVC assumes no responsibility or liability for damage done to dinghies tied to the floats. For the purposes of these regulations, a dinghy is defined as a small (non-sailing) boat, 12' or less in length, used for recreation purposes and/or to get persons to and from their moored boats. One dinghy per family may be tied to the boat floats, and, when not in regular use, should be tied/stored elsewhere. The NVC and Northport Yacht Club (NYC) also provide a common use dinghy(ies) which may be used for short-term use (approximately 15 to 20 minutes) to and from moored boats at the user's own risk. Small sailboats, including Sunfish, are not considered dinghies and should not be tied unattended to the wharf boat float for any period of time exceeding approximately 10 minutes, nor should they be tied to the outfloat for extended periods of time (i.e., overnight unless granted permission by the wharfmaster). In addition, the wharfmaster may authorize use of the outfloat for tie-up and/or storage of other small boats on a case by case basis (e.g., dinghies may be stored on the deck during storms and other heavy weather events, which also holds true for the wharf boat float).

1. A dinghy must be conspicuously marked with the owner's name and phone number.
2. Dinghies tied at the NVC boat float(s) must not exceed 12' in length and 5.5' in width. Dinghies tied overnight at the dock boat float may not have engines exceeding 9.9 horsepower. Dinghies tied overnight at the out float may not have engines exceeding 25 horsepower. Boats exceeding the limits should be kept on a mooring, tied behind their primary-use boat in the anchorage, or kept elsewhere.
3. The dinghy should be an inflatable or have a good, solid rub rail with no rough edges, protruding nails or screws that might damage adjacent boats. It must be well maintained. Oars left in the boat should be securely placed inside the boat with oar locks removed, or left in the down position. The owner of a dinghy which causes damage to another dinghy is responsible for the damage. The NVC & NYC assume no responsibility for damages incurred by dinghies tied to boat float(s). Dinghy owners are encouraged to leave their motors in the down position or to cover propellers.
4. No dinghy should be left at the dock boat float unattended for more than 48 hours. If the dinghy is not used regularly, it should be tied to the moored out float(s), tied behind the owner's moored boat, or beached. Personal dinghies, kayaks, canoes, and paddleboards, may be seasonally stored in an orderly fashion on the north shore seawall and banking area, just north of the boat launch area. Longer light boats, including kayaks and canoes, should be stored up on the embankment in rows while dinghies should be stored on the beach with bows up on the seawall to minimize beach space taken. Small sailboats (Lasers, Sunfish, etc.) shall be stored on the far north end of this area.

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5. A dinghy at any float must be bailed out after a rainstorm as soon as possible (within 48 hours).
6. No dinghies may be stored on the deck of the NVC boat float (s) unless approved by the wharfmaster. The only exception to this rule is during those times when fast-moving storms/squalls come in unexpectedly, and owners have been unable to move their dinghies to safer locations such as the shore. At such times, a dinghy may be pulled up and stored temporarily upside down on the float or wharf, until such time that the storm/squall passes. Dinghy owners should remove their dinghies from the float(s) when storms are predicted well in advance; too many dinghies tied to the float partially full of water cause excessive stress on the boat float during storms.
7. The outer (east) side of the boat float should be used only for loading and unloading. Boats should not remain for extended periods of time (+/- 10 mins), nor be left unattended. No dinghies may be tied to this side of the float for more than a few minutes.
8. Boats not in compliance with the above rules may be moved at the discretion of the wharfmaster and/or his/her designees. They may also remove a dinghy from the float at other times when the integrity of the float/dock, etc. are threatened (e.g., during heavy weather and storm dates).
9. For planning purposes, understand that NVC boat floats will generally be in the water from about Memorial Day weekend (late May) through Columbus Day weekend (mid October). In addition, they may be pulled out or placed on moorings at the discretion of the wharfmaster and/or Village agent/Overseers due to impending bad weather with little to no notice.