

Oyster Harbor Citizens Association Beach & Fishing Pier Rules

This beach and adjacent fishing pier are *private facilities* for use by Oyster Harbor residents and their guests only. They are owned by the Oyster Harbor Citizens Association (OHCA) and are not open to the general public. If you fish on the pier, please be prepared to show the police or a member of OHCA's beach patrol your beach key or a picture ID to verify residence. Guests must be accompanied by an OHCA resident at all times.

The beach is open to residents 24/7, but please use common sense regarding noise, the nature of your activities, and the privacy of your neighbors. Keys to the beach gate are issued to all residents (see OHCA website for details).

Use of the beach and fishing pier by OHCA residents is non-exclusive: All residents have access to the beach and fishing pier at all times, and exclusive use of the beach for parties or private functions is not permitted. However, if you wish to reserve the community's picnic facilities (tables, grills, gazebos, and power outlets) for a private party, you may do so on a first-come, first-served basis by filling out a reservation form online or contacting a member of the beach committee (See OHCA's website www.oysterharbor.org for information about OHCA's officers, the community calendar, and existing reservations for the beach's facilities.).

Swim at your own risk: there is no lifeguard on duty. *Small children, toddlers, and infants must be under direct adult supervision at all times.*

Do not jump or dive from the fishing pier and do not swim near the pier or in the channel: there is boat traffic and conditions are dangerous.

Avoid the rock breakwaters and wood pilings from which the jellyfish nets are hanging – they have splinters, sharp edges, and other hidden hazards. Do not hang on or play with the nets. Do not disturb the floating lights moored in the swim areas if they are present (they help keep geese away at night).

NOT PERMITTED on the beach:

- Boats
- Pets
- Disruptive behavior
- Overnight camping/sleeping
- Loud noise (music/bands to cease by 11 pm)
- Bonfires (unless an OHCA-sponsored event)
- Fireworks (unless an OHCA-sponsored event for which a permit has been secured)
- Charging admission for events.

Alcohol may be consumed by adults but may not be sold at events or provided to minors. Please recycle your empty containers.

Please clean up the beach after your event. Carry your own trash and recyclables out to the curb or back to your home.

If you drive, please park on the asphalt apron along the bay side of Shore Drive. Do not park on the stone swales or in other people's yards/driveways. Avoid parking along the north (channel) end of Shore Drive as it is currently a construction zone. **Please display your OHCA parking decal.**

A port-a-potty is available at the entrance for resident beach-goers from May through October. The beach and pier are patrolled by Anne Arundel County police, off-duty sheriffs hired by OHCA, and a community beach patrol. Please contact 911 in the event of any problems or unusual activities.

NOTE: GEESE ARE NOT WELCOME ON OHCA'S BEACH! If you see Canada Geese on the beach, please help chase them away (their feces are messy and foul both the sand and the water where our children play).

Thank you, and enjoy your time at the OHCA beach.