Special Dog Regulations

The following rules shall be in effect on Duxbury Beach property:
1. Any dog on beach property must be leashed at all times and under immediate and effective control of its handler. NOTE: "Immediate and effective control" is determined by Duxbury Police Department Beach Operations Division personnel.

2. Entry upon or use of Duxbury Beach by any person, including by foot, bicycle, motor vehicle, boat, or horseback, shall be at their own risk and such entry or use shall constitute a release by such person of the Town of Duxbury and Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc. from any and all claims for personal injury or property damage sustained on Duxbury Beach, and such entry or use shall constitute a release by such person of the Town of Duxbury and Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc. from any and all claims for personal injury or property damage sustained on Duxbury Beach.

3. All beach users must comply with current beach rules and regulations and the request or instructions of the patrolling Duxbury Police Department Beach Operations Division personnel. All visitors are subject to the current beach rules and regulations, as amended or added to from time to time, and to all applicable laws. Non-compliance with any current beach rule, regulation or applicable law may result in the loss of a beach vehicle permit and of beach privileges, in addition to other appropriate penalties.

4. Unless specifically amended within these rules or by action of the Duxbury Police Department Beach Operations Division, all other Duxbury, state, or federal dog control regulations shall continue to apply. These include regulations under these “Special Dog Regulations” and contained within the “General Beach Regulations” section and the “Motor Vehicle Beach Regulations” sections of this Pamphlet, and Section 7.1 of the General By-Laws of the Town of Duxbury.

5. Dogs and their handlers are prohibited from all dunes, vegetation, marsh grass, posted bird or wildlife areas, and all Restricted Areas.

6. Dog handlers are required to remove droppings of their dogs from the Powder Point Bridge, beach parking lots, and all beach areas and dispose of droppings in provided trash receptacles or otherwise remove them from beach property.

7. All dogs are prohibited from the front beach, known as the Resident Beach, to the poles delineating the start of the ORV portion from April 1 to September 15.

8. All dogs are prohibited from the bayside beach north of the Powder Point Bridge adjacent to the Resident Parking Lot from April 1 to September 15.

9. Dogs and their handlers are prohibited from disturbing any protected species or wildlife on beach property. Dogs are not permitted to pass through Restricted Areas on the oceanside or bayside beach or dunes.

10. Any violation of these Rules & Regulations, the Duxbury Beach Guide, Duxbury General By-Laws, or federal or state law may result in non-criminal or criminal process, as well as provisions found in the Duxbury General By-Laws, and may involve the revocation of the dog permit for the remainder of the year. If a dog permit is revoked, such revocation shall be recorded at the Duxbury Town Hall, and the dog’s owner and immediate family will not be eligible to re-apply for another permit until the following year.

Duxbury Beach is owned by Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc., a Massachusetts non-profit corporation. The Reservation manages and leases a portion of the beach from the Reservation. Consistent with the lease, the Town provides management of the leased portion for the benefit and enjoyment of the public. On an annual basis, the Town of Duxbury helps manage the lease and works to preserve the beach as a barrier beach for the protection of Duxbury, as an environmental asset and, consistent with its primary ecological objectives, to operate the beach for recreation by the public. On an annual basis, the Town of Duxbury helps manage the lease and operates the beach for recreation by the public. All visitors to Duxbury Beach are subject to the current beach rules and regulations, as amended or added to from time to time, and to all applicable laws. Non-compliance with any current beach rule, regulation or applicable law may result in the loss of a beach vehicle permit and of beach privileges, in addition to other appropriate penalties.

Limitation of Liability

1. The Town of Duxbury and Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc. accept no responsibility or liability for any personal injury or property damage sustained on Duxbury Beach.

2. Entry upon or use of Duxbury Beach by any person, including by foot, bicycle, motor vehicle, boat, or horseback, shall be at their own risk and such entry or use shall constitute a release by such person of the Town of Duxbury and Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc. from any and all claims for personal injury or property damage sustained on Duxbury Beach, and such release shall be binding upon such person, their personal representatives, and all persons claiming through or under them.

3. All beach users must comply with current beach rules and regulations and the request or instructions of the patrolling Duxbury Police Department Beach Operations Division personnel and / or Police Officers.

To report an emergency, dial 9-1-1
For non-emergencies, dial (781) 934-5656

The most up-to-date information pertaining to beach conditions including restrictions and access limitations may be found on the internet at www.town.duxbury.ma.us/

Beach conditions and information updates can be found by following the Duxbury Police Beach Ops Twitter feed at www.twitter.com/DPD_Beach_Ops

This pamphlet was produced by the Duxbury Police Department Beach Operations Division
155 Mayflower Street, Duxbury, MA 02332

Powder Point Bridge Length: 0.4 miles

Distances from the East End of the Powder Point Bridge:
1st Crossover: 0.3 miles
2nd Crossover: 1.5 miles
3rd Crossover: 2.4 miles
Plum Hills: 3.2 miles
Gurnet Gate: 3.5 miles

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Duxbury Beach is owned by Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc.

Duxbury Police Beach Operations Division oversees daily recreational operations

03/2020
Management of Duxbury Beach

Duxbury Beach is a unique and ever-changing natural resource of the south shore of Massachusetts. This barrier beach serves as natural protection for the towns of Duxbury, Kingston, and Plymouth, and as a conservation, scenic, and recreational area. Due to its constant use and vulnerability to the natural forces on the eastern Atlantic coast, the beach and its protection is constantly managed by its owner, the Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc., in connection with the Duxbury Beach Committee, a town advisory group; and the Duxbury Police Beach Operations Division, which oversees the daily recreational operations.

The beach grass on Duxbury Beach plays a vital role in holding the sand during wind and storm events. Beach grass is brittle and easily broken if stepped on. Just walking between the clumps of grass causes sand grains to break the fragile root hairs. Once broken, the plant immediately dies. It is essential to establish and enforce natural dune areas and keep them free of human impact. You will severely damage the beach grass with beach equipment such as lawn mowers, line trimmers, or any environmental forces such as storms. All beach erosion control devices such as fencing, grass and shrub planting areas, and cabling are here for the purpose of preserving the beach as a natural protective barrier and for your present and future enjoyment.

Recreational Beach/Regulations

1. Walking is encouraged on Duxbury Beach. However, all persons, their animals, and vehicles must stay out of all dunes, vegeta-
tion, marsh, and Restricted Areas. Restricted Areas mean areas that are marked by fences, posts, signs, cones, or instructions or directions of authorized personnel. Please use designated crossovers and pathways only.

2. Kiting is allowed on Duxbury Beach and its roadways. However, all kites shall stay out of all dunes, vegetation, marsh grass, posted and unposted. Kites shall abide by Wind Warning regulations at all times. Kites must remain within 200 feet of the person flying the kite. Kites shall not exceed 20 feet in diameter. All parts of the kite, including line, shall be clearly visible and shall not be allowed to pass over any vehicular traffic.

3. Swimming – All persons swimming or bathing at Duxbury Beach do so at their own risk (see “Limitation of Liability”). Life-
guards are not stationed on beach property. The designated swimming area (the beach grass) is located on the ocean side of the beach directly east of the Powder Point Bridge, 100 yards either side of the stationary lifeguard stand. Rafts, tubes, floatation equipment, face masks, and snorkeling and diving equipment are prohibited in the designated lifeguard / bathing area. Swimming in any other area of the beach is without lifeguard supervision. Swimming, diving, and jumping from the Powder Point Bridge is strictly prohibited. No swimming is permitted in the boat channel adjacent to the bayside beach.

4. Boating – Except for authorized emergency vehicles, no vessels of any kind (boats, sailboats, sailboards, jet skis, etc.) are permit-
ted within 150 feet of the water’s edge of the ocean beach except in the designated boating area. The designated boating area is located on the ocean side of the beach directly east of the Powder Point Bridge, 100 yards either side of the stationary lifeguard stand. Rafts, tubes, floatation equipment, face masks, and snorkeling and diving equipment are prohibited in the designated lifeguard / bathing area. Swimming in any other area of the beach is without lifeguard supervision. Swimming, diving, and jumping from the Powder Point Bridge is strictly prohibited. No swimming is permitted in the boat channel adjacent to the bayside beach.

5. Horseback riding requires a special permit that must be purchased from the Treasurer’s office at Town Hall. Riding is permitted daily, from sunrise to sunset, October through April. Riding is permitted, from sunrise to 9:00am and 6:00pm to sunset, May through September, weekdays only. All motor vehicle and parking regulations apply. Riders are responsible for removing all horse droppings from parking areas.

6. Hunting – Except for authorized emergency vehicles, no hunting activities, including hunting dogs, hunting blinds or hunting stands, are allowed on Duxbury Beach.

7. Facilities – Portable restrooms are available throughout the beach. Snacks are available seasonally at the Duxbury Beach Park Bathhouse.

8. Dogs – The use of drones / unmanned aerial vehicles launched, operated, flown over, or retrieved on beach property is not permitted. All dogs on beach property must carry a current Town of Duxbury Walking Permit issued by the Duxbury Town Clerk (see “Special Dog Regulations”). All dogs on beach property must be kept at the water’s edge at all times while in the act of fishing. Bait and carcasses must be removed.

9. Hunting is prohibited on beach property at all times. Discharge of firearms is prohibited on beach property.

10. Loitering in the beach parking lots is prohibited after beach closing.

11. Beach functions or group gatherings of 20 or more persons, or any other special event or research, requires a special per-
mit from the Duxbury Beach Department Police Operations Division. Applications for permits shall be received at least one week prior to the proposed function. Public demonstrations on beach property are prohibited.

Motor Vehicle Beach Regulations

1. All vehicles on beach property must carry a current copy of the Duxbury Beach Guide & Rules. All vehicles parked on beach property must display a current Duxbury Beach sticker. Vehicles parked in any place other than a designated Beach Parking Lot is prohibited. The Powder Point Bridge must visibly display a resident or rental resident beach lot sticker from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

2. All vehicles driving in or parked in ORV areas or parked in roadside parking areas south of the Powder Point Bridge must visibly display a permit sticker appropriate for year round or off-season use.

3. Stickers shall be affixed under the “rearview” mirror to the vehicle windshield, never in tint. If not affixed in the correct position, the RFID system may not detect the sticker and a violation may occur. Unauthorized parking in all roadways, fire lanes, or vehicle crossovers is prohibited at all times. There are five types of Duxbury Beach permits:

   a. Resident Beach Lot: for use of resident parking lots (valid April - March)
   b. Resident Off-Season Oversend: for (4WD) vehicles in ORV areas and roadside parking areas (valid October - March)
   c. Non-Resident Oversend: for (4WD) vehicles in ORV areas, and roadside parking areas (valid April - March)
   d. Non-Resident Off-Season Oversend: for (4WD) vehicles in ORV areas and roadside parking areas (valid October - March)

   5. Permits are valid only for the vehicle for which they were purchased. The permit registration number must match the vehicle registration. Permits are nontransferable. Original permit sticker must be returned in order to receive a replacement due to sale of vehicle, windshield replacement, etc.

6. All off-road vehicles must have 4WD and the proper tire pressure for beach conditions (15PSI), as this will lessen damage to beach roads and crossovers and promote a safe and comfortable ride. All off-road vehicles must be properly equipped before they are permitted on the beach, and vehicles may be inspected for the following equipment at any time by the Duxbury Police and/or Beach Operations Division personnel, Police Officers, and Duxbury Beach Reservation Coastal Ecology personnel, or other authorized agency or department personnel.

7. All vehicles must be operated for the safety and regard of the operator, vehicle occupants, pedestrians, protected species and wildlife, and beach resources. Maximum speed on the Powder Point Bridge, vehicle turnaround, paved parking areas, and at the East End of the Powder Point Bridge on a daily basis.

8. Driving must be confined to designated routes and never in the water or over dunes, vegetation, marsh grass, intertidal, or Restricted Areas. Vehicles shall travel in established tracks. Vehicles shall park perpendicular to water’s edge in an organized fashion and in a manner that will not interfere with the established track or traffic flow. Vehicles driving off the beach shall have the right of way. Vehicles are not allowed in pedestrian, mud-flat/shelf, Restricted Areas, or protected species or wildlife areas. No vehicle shall travel or park within 10 feet of a sand fence, or symbolic shoreline, in any time: shovel; tow rope, tow strap, or chain; spare tire, jack, and 18” square plywood support pad; and tires that are properly pressured for beach conditions. Vehicles lacking this equipment or tire pressure may be cited and/or refused entry for any missing items.

9. Parking Lot Hours: Hours are subject to change.


12. If Off Road Vehicle Hours - Hours are subject to change based on, but not limited to, weather, protected species and wild-
life, and wildlife, and beach resources. Maximum speed on the Powder Point Bridge, vehicle turnaround, paved parking areas, vehicle parking areas shall not exceed 5 mph, and traffic may be further restricted or stopped by authorized agency or department personnel for protected spe-
cies management.

13. All persons must ride within the confines of any motor vehicle and must be seated. Riding on fenders, tailgate, or roof, or standing in the vehicle, is prohibited.

The road over the leased portion of the beach to Garnet Gate is for use by off-road vehicles only. All Garnet Gate Traffic use must be used.

Be advised that the ORV portion of the beach cannot be used during high tides. The ORV portion or sections of the ORV portion can be closed for many reasons, including high winds, rain events, high tide/currents, and shark sightings. The hours of availability of the ORV portion or sections of the ORV portion on any day may be shortened, and/or the ORV portion or sections of the ORV portion may be closed at sundown for many reasons.

ORV Driving Tips

If stuck, do not spin the tires. Let air out of your tires and try again. If your car frame is touching the sand, stop everything and follow this procedure: 1. Jack up each wheel and fill in the holes under each tire; 2. Drop the tire pressure further and attempt to back up car about 15 feet; 3. Fill in all holes; 4. Proceed forward.