

## ***Know the Rules of Shellfish Harvesting***

### **A license is required, even on private beach, for shellfish.**

You can purchase a shellfish license at Brinnon General Store or Cove RV Park Please adhere to the Washington State Fish & Game Regulations

- ❖ **Please help yourself to the Oysters and Clams in “front” of the house. Neighbors do not take kindly sometimes of people wandering on their beach.**
- ❖ **Please only collect the regulation limits, see the Fish & Game magazine. We do not want to waste this natural source of food or deplete our beaches.**
- ❖ **Please only take enough to eat while you are staying at the house. Please do not take limits home. We want others to enjoy our shellfish for a long time.**
- ❖ **Please respect the size and limit requirements according to the Sport Fishing Rules posted by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Please read over the pamphlet supplied and be sure it is for the current year. Rules change at the end of April every year.**
- ❖ **Also check for specific closures in the area. If you take shellfish off any beach during the closed season you can be fined by Fish & Game enforcement officers.**
- ❖ **If you're digging please cover your holes up. We like to leave the beach as natural as possible.**
- ❖ **Once you've steamed your clams please deposit the shells back on the beach. Do not put them in the garbage.**
- ❖ **Shuck oysters on the beach, their shells re-generate and grow more oysters. If you do put a few on the BBQ please take the cooked shells to the beach. Do not put the shells in the garbage.**

## Licensing and reporting requirements for CRAB

To fish for crab in Washington state:

- ❖ All crab fishers age 15 or older must carry a current [Washington fishing license](#). Options range from an annual shellfish/seaweed license to combination fishing licenses, valid for a single day or up to a year.
- ❖ All sport crabbers, regardless of age, must obtain and carry a crab licensing endorsement to fish for crab in Puget Sound. The endorsement costs \$3 for crabbers age 15 and over, but is free to fishers under age 15.
- ❖ All sport crabbers, regardless of age, who fish for crab in Puget Sound must carry and complete [catch record cards](#) to account for all Dungeness crab they catch. Starting in 2007, catch record cards must be returned to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at the end of both the summer and fall/winter seasons. As an alternative, crabbers now have the option of reporting their catch totals for each fishing period via the Internet at: [https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/wdfw/puget\\_sound\\_crab\\_catch.html](https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/wdfw/puget_sound_crab_catch.html)
- ❖ Always check the area for Pollution Closures. Eating contaminated shellfish can cause serious illness or death.
- ❖ **We are in Marine area 12, be sure to consult the pamphlet for specific areas where you are able to harvest shellfish, also be aware of the dates when the shellfish are able to be harvested. Not all shellfish is open at the same time.**

***Bring a bucket, your boots, a shucker and a rake.  
Have a great time!!!***