



TOWN OF WELLS  
BEACH PARKING PASS POLICY  
2023



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## BEACH PARKING PASS POLICY

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The Town of Wells operates a beach program, which is funded by parking lot fees. The program provides for the paving/maintenance of the parking lots, beach cleaning, beach waste removal, restroom cleaning and maintenance/upgrades, community service officers and lifeguard staffing.

This policy has been established to ensure continued fairness and control with beach parking lot passes.

## SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS

Taxpayer Seasonal Beach Sticker – A town issued sticker to all taxable resident properties in Wells. Tax bill parcel number is required for All Stickers.

Resident -- A resident of the Town of Wells might not be a real estate property owner but lives in Wells. They must show proof of vehicle registration where excise tax is paid to the Town of Wells to be eligible for a taxpayer beach pass.

Non-resident -- A non-resident is any person who is neither a property taxpayer nor a resident but who is a visitor or guest in the Town of Wells. A non-resident is not eligible for a taxpayer seasonal beach sticker but may obtain entry to the parking lots by purchasing a ticket via the Pay and Display meters located at each of the municipal beach parking lots.

Real Estate Taxpayer -- Owns real estate in the Town of Wells as listed on the Assessor's April 1<sup>st</sup> assessment tax records.

Proof of Ownership- Proof of ownership includes but is not limited to:

- For Residential Properties - a vehicle registration document with the home address on the registration which matches the mailing address for the Wells tax bill.
- For Leased vehicles - more often than not the vehicle registration on a leased vehicle is in the name of the leasing company. In order to provide proof of ownership, a taxpayer should produce one or more of the following:
  - lease agreement
  - receipts for oil changes/vehicle maintenance
  - insurance cards
  - These documents should have the taxpayer's name and home address and the vehicle identification number (VIN) on them. This ties the taxpayer to the vehicle versus just the leasing company's name.
- For Company Owned Vehicles -
  - If in the name of a leasing company, the rules stated in Leased vehicles above apply.
  - If in the Company name a business card with the Company's name and the taxpayer's name on it is required.
  - Or a letter from the Company that includes the taxpayer's name and indicating that this vehicle has been provided to the taxpayer by the Company.
- For Properties held in Trust, LLCs, or Corporations –
  - Proof of ownership in the trust, LLC, or corporation

Condominium Ownership -- An owner of a condominium in Wells is considered a real estate property owner and is entitled to a taxpayer beach sticker as described above.

Multiple Ownership of Real Estate Property -- The owner(s) of multiple real estate properties (condominiums, houses or vacant land) jointly or individually as listed in the town Tax Assessor's records.

Time Share Ownership -- Each owner of a week or multiple weeks of time share property shall be entitled to purchase a week's pass for beach parking for the flat fee of \$40.00 per vehicle for each week that they are occupying the time share unit.

Odd/Even Year Time Share Ownership -- Each owner of a week or multiple weeks of time share property shall be entitled to purchase a week's pass for beach parking for the flat fee of \$40.00 per vehicle for each week that they are occupying the time share unit.

## **SECTION 2 - OPERATIONAL HOURS**

Operation hours for collection of parking fees are 8:00am to 6:00pm from the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend to the Monday of Indigenous Peoples' Day.

THERE IS NO OVERNIGHT PARKING ALLOWED IN ANY PUBLIC PARKING LOT

## **SECTION 3 - TAXPAYER SEASONAL BEACH STICKERS**

- **FEE:**
  - \$40.00 per vehicle (NOT applicable to Motor Homes/RVs),
  - \$20.00 for veterans, current armed forces service members, or their spouse. Our online purchase system does not allow for Veteran designation, all Veterans seeking a reduced price sticker must purchase the sticker in person or by mail.
- **PURCHASABLE TIME FRAME:** Online sales start the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in April. In-person or by mail sales start the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May.
- **10% of spaces in each paid lot will be set aside for Taxpayer Beach Sticker vehicles.**
- **Two (2) Veteran Spots will be set aside in each lot for vehicles displaying a Veteran/Service Member Taxpayer Beach Sticker.**

## **SECTION 4 - MOORING HOLDERS**

Mooring Holders who wish to park without using the lot meters will be required to purchase a Mooring Holder Sticker. With their Mooring Holder Agreement, they will be allowed to purchase one sticker at \$40.00. This sticker will allow them to park in the Eastern Shore Lot within any available parking space. There will be thirty (30) designated spaces for Mooring Holders Stickers and Taxpayer Beach Stickers. On Saturday and Sunday, fifteen (15) of these thirty (30) designated spaces will be for Mooring Holder Stickers and the remaining fifteen (15) of these thirty (30) designated spaces will be for Taxpayer Beach Stickers. On weekdays ten (10) of these dedicated spaces will be available for Mooring Holders and twenty (20) of these designated spaces will be available to Taxpayer Beach Stickers. Mooring Holder Stickers will be available for purchase in-person or by mail starting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May.

## **SECTION 5 - PASS ISSUANCE, TRANSFERABILITY AND REPLACEMENT**

Taxpayer Seasonal Beach Stickers are issued with the vehicle registration printed on them.

Transfer of a sticker is **prohibited** and usage of stickers is limited to the vehicle designated. Per Wells Town Ordinance 212-14 a parking ticket shall be issued by the Wells Police Department for this vehicle and the sticker will be confiscated if it is found on a vehicle other than the vehicle listed on the sticker.

The Taxpayer Seasonal Beach Sticker **MUST** be affixed to the exterior bottom lefthand side (drivers' side) of the rear window. For vehicles without a permanent rear window the sticker **MUST** be affixed to the lefthand side (drivers' side) of the rear bumper. Motorcycles that have windshields **MUST** affix the sticker to the windshield. Motorcycles and scooters without windshields need to affix the sticker on the left side so it is visible to the Community Service Officer when entering the parking lot.

The Town will replace a sticker for \$5.00 ONLY if the following occur:

- Vehicle with original sticker was sold or, if leased, the lease ends prior to the season ending – MUST provide evidence of sale and or lease turn-in.
- Vehicle with original sticker had windshield replaced – MUST provide evidence.
- Vehicle owner that paid for an original sticker receives new plates for the vehicle that was originally permitted.

If a Sticker is lost or damaged, after receipt or through the mail, a new sticker may be purchased for \$40.00. The town is NOT responsible for any lost or damaged stickers.

NO REFUND FOR STICKERS WILL BE GRANTED

## SECTION 6 - PAY TO PARK SYSTEM AND FEES

Rates at ALL Parking Lots: \$5.00\_an hour, 8AM to 6PM

Fees for parking at the beach lots, will be collected at the lots using the Pay and Display Meter System.

Fees are for the following vehicles: All registered motor vehicles including motorcycles, scooters, and RVs.

The meters will accept credit cards, debit cards, tokens, and coins. Debit cards will be processed as a credit card. The meters will accept US and Canadian coins.

Tokens: \$5.00 each token, 1 Token = 1 Hour Paid

For US paper currency transactions please see lot attendant to purchase Town of Wells Tokens. Lot Attendants will have a limited number of tokens available per day. Tokens then need to be entered into the meter for a pay and display document. No paper currency will be accepted in a meter due to ocean/salt air conditions.

When a payment is made using the meter, a document will print out that **MUST** be placed on the vehicle dash, face up, so a Community Service Officer can verify that the vehicle owner has paid for parking. If the document is not seen or readable by the Community Service Officer, as per Wells Town Ordinance 212-14, a parking ticket will be issued by the Town of Wells Police Department.

No refunds on meter purchases will be granted.

## SECTION 7 - LOCATION OF BEACH PARKING LOTS

Metered Parking Lots:

- Eastern Shore Lot – located at the end of Atlantic Avenue- 3 Meters
- Mile Road Lot – located with the playground (no RV's or Campers) – 2 Meters
- Drakes Island Gross Lot – at the eastern end of Drake's Island (no RV's or Campers) – 2 Meters
- Drakes Island Jetty Lot – located at the end of Island Beach Rd on Drake's Island (no RV's or Campers) - 3 meters
- Gold Ribbon Lot – located on Webhannet Drive (no RV's or campers) - 1 Meter

Free Parking Lots:

- Casino Square Parking Lot – at the end of Mile Road (near Forbes Restaurant)
- Harbor Park Parking Lot – surrounding the gazebo and playground
- Harbor Parking Lot – at the end of Harbor Road, with two-hour limit

## **SECTION 8 - TERMS OF STICKERS**

All purchases of Taxpayer Seasonal Beach Stickers described in Section 3 are for the calendar year in which they were purchased. A new Pass is to be placed on the designated vehicle every calendar year.

All purchases of Mooring Pass Holder Stickers described in Section 4 are for the calendar year in which they were purchased. A new Pass is to be placed on the designated vehicle every calendar year.

As per Wells Town Ordinance 212-14, a parking ticket may be issued to this vehicle if the pass is expired.

## **SECTION 9 - DESIGNATED DISABILITY PARKING SPACES**

Designated disability spaces are governed by the appropriate Maine State Statutes; fees for parking are waived when the proper plates and/or placard are displayed for the Plate and/or Placard holder in any parking spot.

- The following are the number of designated disability parking spaces in the metered lots:
- 3 Spots at Casino Square
- 7 Spots at Eastern Shore Lot
- 2 Spots at Gold Ribbon Parking Lot
- 3 Spots at Mile Road Lot
- 6 Spots at Drakes Island Jetty Lot
- 5 Spots at Drakes Island Gross Lot
- 5 Spots at the intersection of Drake's Island Rd and Island Beach Rd

## **SECTION 10 - FINES**

A Parking Ticket, per Wells Town Ordinance 212-14, will be issued for the following offenses:

- Receipt Not Showing
- Beach Sticker with Different Registration #
- Expired Beach Sticker
- Failure to Pay to Park
- Overtime Parking
- Any other parking violation stated on parking ticket

Parking in a physical disability restricted space:

- A \$265.00 Parking Ticket will be issued based on the Maine State Statute – Fine to increase if Statute changes.

Failure to pay fine within 30 days will result in the fine doubling per Wells Town Ordinance 212.14

## **SECTION 11 – APPEALS**

If you feel you have received a parking citation in error or have some reason why you believe the citation should be voided, complete our Parking Violation Appeal Form which can be found on the Town of Wells website: [www.wellstown.org](http://www.wellstown.org) or in person at the Wells Police Department – 1563 Post Road, Wells, ME 04090.

Please note that the reasons listed below are not acceptable grounds for approving an appeal:

- Just there a short time
- Parked in the same area and did not receive a ticket before
- Time constraints (Only a minute)
- Did not intend to do it
- Someone else was using my vehicle
- Did not see the sign
- Did not know about the Wells, ME Beach parking regulations
- Vehicle was attended, not parked
- No one else received a ticket
- Lack of valid parking space
- Lack of a convenient parking space
- Lack of funds or credit card
- The fine amount is too high

Your appeal will be reviewed, and you will be notified, by mail, of the outcome of your appeal. The decision letter will be mailed to you at the address provided on the Appeal Form.

## SECTION 12 - RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLICY

The Town Manager shall administer and enforce this Policy.


REVISED AND READOPTED THIS 4th DAY OF APRIL 2023



John MacLeod III



Kathleen Chase



Robert Foley



Scott DeFelice

Timothy Roche

WELLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN