MEDIA RELEASE

Town of Falmouth Announces Beach Management Plans

Managing Capacity and Social Distancing
The Town of Falmouth has developed an initial plan for the 2020 beach season consistent with State guidance and in consultation with the Select Board and other Cape & Island towns. The plan includes a 50% reduction in the number of parking spaces available at each beach to facilitate social distancing. Signage will be placed at all beaches identifying the social distancing and hygiene requirements set forth by the Commonwealth. Parking Attendants and Lifeguards will not enforce social distancing but will generally monitor for overcrowding and report concerns to supervisors. Further action may need to be taken if the public health is jeopardized by overcrowding or non-compliance with social distancing. This approach is generally consistent with that of other towns in the Cape and Islands region.

“We are asking visitors to help us keep the beaches open by acting responsibly and abiding by the social distancing rules set forth by the Commonwealth,” said Doug Brown Vice Chair of the Falmouth Select Board.

Town Encourages Purchase of Resident/Taxpayer Stickers by Mail
The Town is encouraging all residents and taxpayers to purchase beach stickers by mail to limit COVID-19 exposure for employees and the community at large. The application form can be downloaded at http://www.falmouthmass.us/152/Beach-Parking-Stickers. Completed forms and self-addressed stamped envelopes can be returned by mail or dropped off at the Town Hall main entrance mail slot. Beach Parking Stickers will be sold at the Ellen T. Mitchell Bathhouse at 56 Surf Drive beginning Tuesday, May 26th.

Beach Parking Stickers Not Required Until June 20th
The enforcement date for beach stickers at all beaches is being deferred to June 20th to allow more time for residents and taxpayers to purchase these beach parking stickers, preferably through the mail.

Changes to Non-Resident Parking
To reduce parking demand, the Town will no longer offer non-resident/taxpayers stickers for less than a full season. Starting June 20th, non-resident/taxpayers will continue to have access to the three pay beaches either by purchasing a seasonal non-resident sticker or payment of the daily parking fee. Credit Cards and Exact Change will be accepted at Old Silver, Surf Drive and Menauhant East beaches. Grew’s Pond at Goodwill Park will remain accessible to the public without a sticker or daily parking fee, within the limits of reduced parking. Parking attendants will not be authorized to make change as a measure to limit close contact between employees and patrons.
8 Beach Parking Lots Open Beginning Saturday, May 23rd
Parking attendants will be present to control and monitor parking at all beaches. There will be no fee charged and no lifeguards on duty until June 20th.

- Old Silver
- Chapoquoit
- Woodneck
- Surf Drive
- Menauhant – East and West
- Falmouth Heights
- Bristol
- Goodwill Park

The following beach parking lots will be opened no later than June 20th when sufficient staff and/or physical barriers are in place to control parking.

- Megansett
- MBL/Stony

Quissett Harbor/The Knob
Beginning Saturday, May 23rd, the limited existing street side parking spaces will be reopened to the public in the Quissett Harbor area. Police will continue to enforce illegal parking on Quissett Harbor Road and in all areas throughout town.

Julian M. Suso, Town Manager
COVID-19 BEACH SAFETY RULES

Make your safety a priority and remember - WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

1. IF YOU ARE FEELING SICK, STAY HOME.

2. GENERAL DISTANCING
   Maintain at least 6' of distance from other beach-goers.

3. BEACH DISTANCING
   Do not sit closer than 12' from your nearest neighbor in any direction.

4. WEAR A MASK
   Masks are required when 6' of distance cannot be maintained.

5. PREVENT THE SPREAD OF GERMS
   Wash your hands and/or use hand sanitizer frequently.

6. BE RESPECTFUL
   Avoid confrontation. Be kind, follow the rules and enjoy the beach!

*INSERT WEB ADDRESS and other footer text as needed