



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF AQUACULTURE

P.O. Box 97, 190 Rogers Avenue, Milford, CT 06460

203-874-0696 | Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov

Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer



January 21, 2026

Madison Health Department, Health Director
Trent Joseph, MPH
8 Campus Drive
Madison, CT 06443

RE: Reclassification of shellfish growing areas in Madison, CT

Mr. Joseph,

The Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture (DoAg) is required to reevaluate shellfish growing area classifications in the State on an annual basis, to accurately reflect the appropriate designated use of the area and remain in compliance with the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP). The DoAg has completed the 2024 Annual Report for the Town of Madison, covering the period 01/01/2022 through 12/31/2024, and analyzed the data from 01/01/2023 through 12/31/2025.

The following shellfish growing area in Madison is reclassified effective January 1, 2026:

- A portion of the Approved area between Chipman Point and West Wharf is being downgraded to the Surf Club ("Area A") Conditionally Approved Seasonal area because multiple water quality stations failed to meet the NSSP criteria for an Approved area. The area will be managed with a 1.5" rainfall trigger, and a seasonal closure from October 1-March 31 due to inability to collect monthly open samples.

For additional information on the NSSP requirements for classifying shellfish growing areas, please see the NSSP Model Ordinance Chapter IV. Shellfish Growing [Areas@.02](#) Microbiological Standards and [@.03](#) Growing Area Classification.

<https://www.fda.gov/food/federalstate-food-programs/national-shellfish-sanitation-program-nssp>

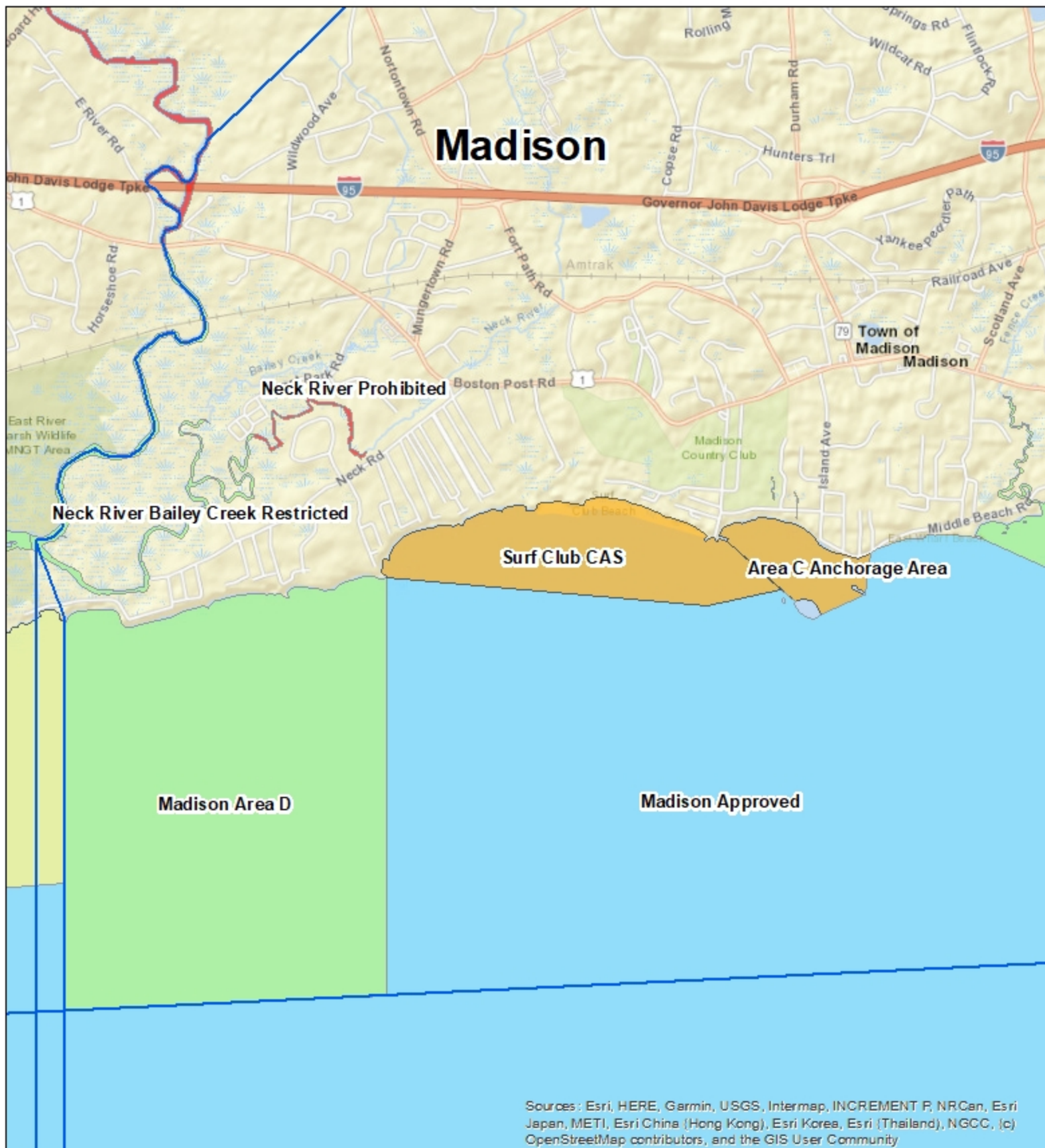
The changes became effective January 1, 2026. The classification change documents are posted on the Bureau website: [Shellfish Growing Areas Classification Changes](#). A copy of the written description of the current classifications and all relevant maps are attached. Copies of the new classification descriptions for the shellfish growing areas in Madison are being provided to the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Madison Town Manager.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Alissa Dragan
Supervising Environmental Analyst
alissa.dragan@ct.gov
203-874-0696, ext. 119

Cc: Amy Fitzpatrick, USDA Regional Shellfish Specialist, Amy.Fitzpatrick@fda.hhs.gov, Bryan Hurlburt, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Bryan.Hurlburt@ct.gov, Keith Williams, CT DEEP Environmental Conservation Police, Keith.Williams@ct.gov, Katie O'Brien-Clayton, CT DEEP Environmental Analyst, Katie.O'Brien-Clayton@ct.gov, Nancy J. Martucci, Madison Town Clerk, townclerk@madisonct.org



Madison 1

Classification Effective Date:
1/1/2026

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Map not intended for navigation

Shellfish Area Classification

— Town Line

Classification

- Approved
- Conditionally Approved
- Conditionally Approved Seasonal
- Conditionally Restricted-Relay
- Restricted-Relay
- Prohibited

CT Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture

tel: 203-874-0696 email: Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov



CLASSIFICATION OF SHELLFISH GROWING AREAS MADISON, CONNECTICUT

Effective 1/1/2026

PROHIBITED AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

East River: The area enclosed by the northern Madison jurisdiction line on the East River at 41.291782, -72.643934, north of the I-95 crossing, south of Route 1 to 41.282791, -72.645021.

Neck River: The portion of the Neck River from 41.274663, -72.633021 to 41.275526, -72.640938.

Unnamed creeks off Middle Beach Road West: All creeks and their tributaries off Middle Beach Road West before the confluence with Long Island Sound at the West Wharf Beach.

Toms Creek: All waters and tributaries of Tom's Creek bounded by 41.271128, -72.569883 in the western branch and 41.268935, -72.566042 in the eastern branch, south to the boundary of the Restricted East area.

Hammonasset River: The Hammonasset River is divided by the Madison-Clinton Town jurisdiction line. In Madison, the area is defined by the crossing of I-95 south to the crossing of Route 1, inclusive of the River's tributaries.

Williard Island Marsh: All waters of the Williard Island Marsh initiating at 41.252513, -72.539492 to the border of the Conditionally Approved Seasonal Outer Clinton Harbor area.

RESTRICTED AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

East River: The area enclosed by the Prohibited line at 41.282791, -72.645021 south to the Madison jurisdiction line on the East River at 41.269920, -72.656536.

Neck River and Bailey Creek: The portion of the Neck River from 41.275526, -72.640938 to the confluence with the East River (which becomes the Town of Guilford jurisdiction), inclusive of Bailey Creek from 41.2763, -72.644127 to the confluence with the Neck River.

Area D: All waters within the points 41.26561, -72.65426; south to 41.26541, -72.6501; east to 41.245689, -72.631581; north to 41.26802, -72.63156; then west back along the shoreline to the original coordinate.

Fence Creek/East Wharf: The area enclosed by the stone dock at East Wharf Beach (41.269985, -72.589487), southeast to 41.268473, -72.585063, northeast to the shoreline off 48 Grove Avenue, then back along the shoreline west to the original coordinate, inclusive of Fence Creek north to 41.227589, -72.587985 (just south of the Route 1 crossing).

RESTRICTED AREAS (WEST TO EAST) (CONTINUED)

Restricted East: All waters within the area formed by the western boundary (41.27014, -72.57541 south to 41.16308, -72.5752), east to the Madison-Clinton Town jurisdiction line, excluding the Conditionally Approved Seasonal Outer Clinton Harbor area and Toms Creek Prohibited area.

Hammonasset River: The Hammonasset River is divided by the Madison-Clinton Town jurisdiction line. In Madison, the area is defined by the crossing of Route 1 south to the border of the Conditionally Approved Seasonal Outer Clinton Harbor area, inclusive of the River's tributaries.

CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED

There are no Conditionally Restricted areas in Madison.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED

There are no Conditionally Approved areas in Madison.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED SEASONAL (WEST TO EAST)

Surf Club: The area enclosed by the southeastern tip of Chipman Point, southeast along the northern boundary of lot 14_3, then northeast from the northeast corner of lot 14_3 to station 076-05.0, northwest to the West Wharf stone pier, then west along the shoreline back to the origin point. This Conditionally Approved area shall be closed annually from October 1-March 31, inclusive of both dates, due to an inability to sample the area, not a seasonal decline in water quality.

Area C/ West Wharf Anchorage Area: The area enclosed by the southeastern extremity of the stone pier at the West Wharf off West Wharf Road east (41.269869, -72.60745), then south east to Tuxis Island (41.266647, -72.602678), then around Tuxis Island in a northeastern arch to 41.2659, -72.600916, then northeast to Gull Rock (41.267004, -72.597772), then north to the shoreline off 43 Middle Beach Road, then back along the shoreline westward to the original coordinate. This Conditionally Approved area shall be closed annually from approximately June 1-September 30 due to the presence of a seasonal mooring area.

Outer Clinton Harbor: The Conditionally Approved Seasonal Outer Clinton Harbor area is divided by the Madison-Clinton Town jurisdiction line. In Madison, the area is defined by 41.267176, -72.524611; south along the shoreline to 41.250327, -72.538384, excluding the Williard Island Marsh Prohibited area; northeast to the Madison-Clinton Town jurisdiction line (41.252456, -72.527895); north along the jurisdiction line to the border of the Hammonasset River Restricted area (41.267295, -72.522186); then west to the original coordinate. This Conditionally Approved area shall be seasonally closed from May 1-October 31, inclusive of both dates, due to a decline in water quality.

APPROVED

Madison Approved Area: All Long Island Sound waters in Madison, exclusive of those classified as Prohibited, Restricted, Conditionally Restricted, Conditionally Approved, or Conditionally Approved Seasonal.