

Guide to Relaying Condemned Shellfish

Shellfish Relay Season

February 1 to November 1

As defined in section 55 of the regulation.
Click here for the complete regulation.

VMRC License requirements *PRIOR* to requesting Daily Relay Permit(s):

Must have:

- Current Shellfish Harvester Safety Training
- Current **Aquaculture User Fee** (387): $50.00
- Current **Oyster Aquaculture Product Owner Permit** (108):$10.00
- Pay the yearly Shellfish Relay Fee (128): $150.00
    - Click here for the complete regulation.
  - Fee can be purchased at an agent that sells VMRC licenses.
    - Click here for the list of MRC agents.
  - Shellfish Relay Fee does not require pre-authorization.
- Additional dredge permit is required if harvesting by mechanical equipment.
    - Click here to view **§ 28.2-515**
  - Lease rent must be paid prior to issuance of a dredge permit.
  - Dredge Permits ***expire August 31*** of each calendar year.
  - Dredge Permits are issued by MPO's.
    - Contact Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) Dispatch at (757) 247-2265 and ask to speak to a Marine Police Officer (MPO). An available MPO will contact you by phone.

Things to remember before relaying:

- Assure lease is properly marked as stated in **§ 28.2-818. Identification of relay areas**.
  - Click here for marking requirements.
- Coordinate with the MPO that will be overseeing the relay prior to relay by contacting the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) Dispatch at (757) 247-2265. Ask to speak to a Marine Police Officer (MPO) in reference to the Shellfish Relay.
- Assure the vessel and/or vehicle displays the proper identification when transporting condemned shellfish as defined in **§ 28.2-817. Displaying identification when transporting shellfish.**
  - Click here for the marking requirements.

Helpful PDF Resources

Shellfish Relay Regulations & Codes
Shellfish Relay Regulations & Codes with definitions

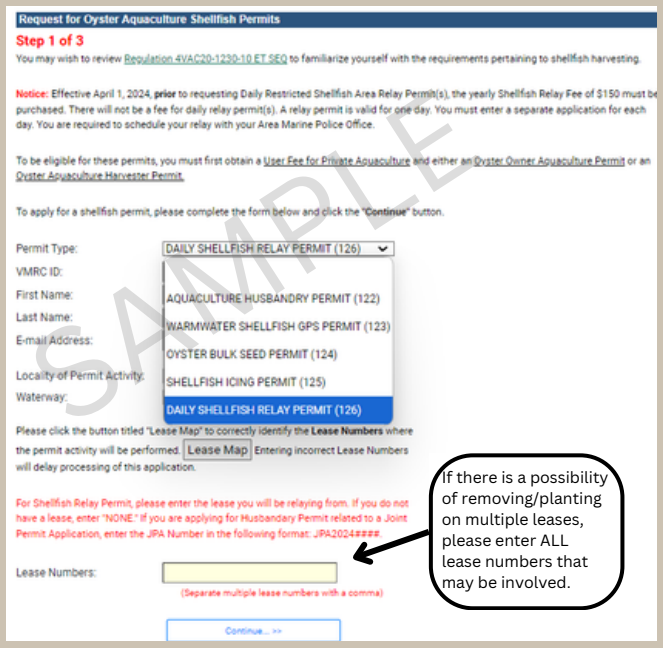
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Steps to request Daily Relay Permit(s)

Submit a request for Daily Relay Permit(s) by completing the required information.

- Click here to request Daily Relay Permit(s)



- Once Shellfish Relay Permit have been requested, a staff member from Shellfish Division will review the request.
- After the request has been reviewed and approved, the requester will receive an automatic email notification of the status of the Daily Relay request.
- The requester will be able to go an agent that sells MRC licenses to get them printed.



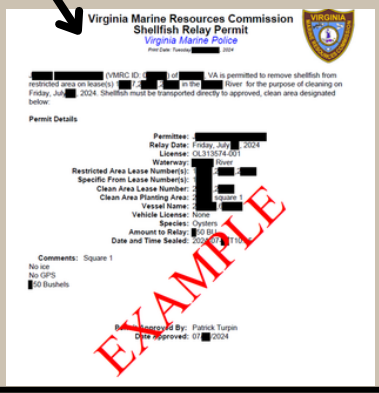
- Click here for MRC Agent list.

Coordinating with MPO

- The relayer must coordinate with an MPO in the area in which the Relay is to take place prior to the day of the relay.
- The MPO overseeing the relay will issue a Daily Shellfish Relay Transport Permit ***each day*** prior to the start of the relay.

- The relayer will also need a Daily Relay Permit at the time of the relay.
- A Daily Shellfish Relay Permit needs to be surrendered to the MPO after the Relay for that day has been completed.





QUESTIONS RELAYING CONDEMNED SHELLFISH?

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