



What's New at CTC? Vessel Safety Report

Cousins Parking Permits

As the Island's population grows so does the demand for Cousins parking spots. Over the last few years many people have moved a car to Route One, either voluntarily or by assignment. Our priority for assigning spots in 2017 was:

-one spot per year-round household (142)

-a second car if there are two full time commuters (10)

-Island business-organizations (6)

-Part time seasonal commuters (7)

Only residents with Maine license plates qualify for a spot.

We do have many "weekday worker" permits - workers traveling to Chebeague are allowed to park during the day only Monday - Friday. These vehicles fill spots made available when Island commuters leave the lot. Some of these vehicles may have license plates from other places.

PLEASE PUT YOUR 2017 PARKING STICKER ON YOUR CAR TO AVOID A TICKET.

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Senior Captain and Safety Officer Matt Ridgway has provided his annual safety report to the Board of Directors. We want to share his report with our passengers.

In an effort to continue our mission of providing safe and reliable transportation, the CTC boat crew worked hard in 2016 to improve safety and emergency preparedness. These improvements and continued training have served to enhance an already effective safety program. Some of our 2016 accomplishments follow.

The entire crew was certified in April in first aid/CPR and trained on using the AED that the Rescue has provided on the boat. We will continue to work to make sure all of our new crew receives this important training.

We continued to conduct well beyond the number of drills required by the Coast guard. This year we conducted 90 drills (50% more than 2015), including Man Overboard, Fire, Dewatering, Abandon Ship, Anchoring, Loss of Steering, and boat handling drills.

We conducted 4 "All Hands" drills. These drills included all available crew and covered things like our normal Man Overboard and Fire Drills, as well as including some exciting new training on the Dovekie and barge. Fire Chief Ralph Munroe also helped out by providing the crew with Hands on Fire Extinguisher training as well as a safe place to do hands on emergency flare training.

Our safety equipment was updated in many areas.

We've equipped both the Islander and the Dovekie with new Fire Suppression systems that will enable the crew to fight fires in confined spaces without having to enter the space

Inflatable PFD's were purchased for deckhands on both the Islander and Dovekie to wear, especially during inclement weather.

Hi visibility vests were worn by barge and parking lot crew during barging this year.

20 replacement PFD's were purchased for the Islander.

An additional life ring was purchased for the Islander and located on the forward deck.

A damage control kit was assembled and placed on the boat. All crew have been trained on how to use it in the event of an emergency.

A camera was installed in the engine room to allow for monitoring in the wheelhouse. A stern camera will soon follow.

Additionally the safety training manual and operations manual were updated and consolidated to create a more comprehensive safety program.

Goals for 2017

Continue the level of drills and emergency training on the Islander

Implement a more comprehensive and formal safety training program for the Dovekie and barging operation.

Complete the installation of the stern camera.

Continue conducting regular all hands safety training

Expand our safety training and operations with the Chebeague Island Fire and rescue.

We are proud of our safety record and look forward to a great and safe 2017!

Safety at the Cousins Wharf

The bus drivers have had a few close calls lately on the Cousins Wharf when backing around to leave. The buses do not have great visibility when backing up and there have been instances when cars pulled down just as the driver started backing around and almost got hit. The driver had checked that there was no car behind him before he started backing - but the car pulled down quickly and parked in his blind spot. Please do not pull behind or walk behind the bus when the ferry is about to depart and the bus may be leaving. This is a significant safety issue. Thank you for your cooperation.

Using wheelchair on the ferry

CTC (with the help of a grant from Re-compense) purchased a motorized wheelchair recently. The chair will be helpful in some situations, but not all. The crew will use both wheelchairs based on conditions.

If you need to use our chair, please call the office or boat ahead of time and let the crew know - and don't arrive at the boat more than 10 minutes before departure so crew will be available to help.