



CHEBEAGUE TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

March 2019

What's New at CTC?

Providing
Assistance in
Accessing
the Ferry

Safely Using Our Services

Returning to the Float for Late Passengers:

Once the ferry is untied, it will not return to the float to pick up late passengers. In the past, we have had people jump onto the ferry while it was feet away from the float. The crew believes this unsafe practice must be prevented.

Ferry Crossing During Storms:

If warranted, the Captain will make an announcement and all passengers must be seated in the main cabin during crossing.

March Birthdays

Becky Ramsey

(driver) - 3/23

Scott Ehlers

(Cousins) - 3/30

Ted McKeen

(driver) - 3/31

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This month's newsletter focuses on safety for all those using our services. Most of the items listed below are simple common sense practices intended to protect passengers and crew. Although these rules and recommendations are not new, it's easy to forget or ignore them as we travel back and forth. Here is a quick reminder about guidelines to make everyone's ride safer and more pleasant.

On the Ferry

- Passengers should not open doors or exit ferry until instructed by the deckhand.
- Passengers in cabin should stay seated until the ferry is tied up.
- Carts must be left on stern—not brought into the cabin.
- Carts should not be placed on float in foul weather.
- Passengers must stay off the float when the ferry is landing.
- The crew will inform passengers when they can board the ferry (at Cousins).
- Small children must be supervised at all times and not allowed on the bow or stern without an adult present.
- Dogs must be leashed and under the owner's control at all times.
- Passengers must not lean over side of the ferry or sit children on the rails.
- Jumping and diving from ferry are not permitted.
- Access to the wheelhouse is by permission only.

Upper Deck

- Access is restricted to certain times and trips during the summer.
- No pets or luggage allowed on upper deck.
- Both hands must be free to climb the ladder.
- Passengers must face the ladder when descending from upper deck.

On the Bus

- Individuals and vehicles should not be behind the bus when it is backing around at Cousins. If the back-up signal is sounding—get out of the way! The mirrors have “blind spots” and the driver may not be able to see you.
- Passengers are not allowed to enter or exit the bus through the back door.
- Dogs must be leashed and under the owner's control at all times (and kept off the seats).
- Passengers should not move around the bus while in motion.

As of February 15th, the CTC crew no longer provides assistance to passengers at half-tide or below. Assistance will continue to be available at half-tide and above when movement up and down ramps is safer for all.

CTC is not denying service with this policy but restricting times when the crew will assist due to safety concerns for our crew and other passengers.

In February 2018, CTC made a presentation to the Board of Selectmen regarding the safety concern with the current ramps. At that time, we urged the Board to include in their 2018-2019 budget funds for evaluating the situation. In September, we informed the Board that, despite our efforts to find a solution, CTC was unable to safely assist in transport below half tide. We recommended 80 foot ramps be installed. While a larger float would be a safety improvement as well, we do not believe it is necessary to address the access issue.

As our population ages (half our residents are age 60 or older), it is becoming more critical that safety of access to the floats be improved for all residents.