DNR Aquaculture Division
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MD Aquaculture Conference
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Import Permit

Permit required in order to import **ANY** shellfish taken from waters outside of the State for planting in the waters of the State.

- live oysters
- seed oysters
- oyster shell
- clam shell
- live clams

Applications must be received at least **30 days** in advance of shipment.
A nursery permit is required for any aquaculture nursery activities including:

Remote Setting
Upwellers
Downwellers
Who will be the permittee?
The leaseholder(s)

Who is the registrant?
All individuals other than the leaseholder/permittee conducting aquaculture activities on the lease
New lease applicants and transfer applicants will receive an application with lease contract upon approval of the lease.

Existing leaseholders will receive an application with lease invoice and yearly report forms in December.
Both the SAH permittee and registrants will be issued registration cards

The cards are:

- Issued annually
- Renewed automatically if reporting requirements met and no violations
- Not transferable
Permittee is responsible for:

Notifying department of any **changes to the registrant list** on a form provided by the department

Submitting a **monthly harvest activity report** by the 10th day of the month
All permittees and registrants must:

• Possess a valid registration card while working on lease

• Harvest in accordance with all DHMH regulations including the National Shellfish Sanitation Program, including tagging

• Have written permission from the Department for undersized oysters outside of the leased area

• Sell oysters in accordance with current regulations
Registration cards can be suspended for:

- Violation of aquaculture laws and/or regulations
  - Natural Resources § 4-11A
  - COMAR 08.02.23

- Conviction for taking oysters
  - From a location more than 150 feet within a closed or prohibited area
  - With illegal gear
  - More than 2 hours after sunset or before sunrise
  - During the closed season
Questions ??

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