

## Piping Plover and Least Tern Project 2014

### **IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Laura Saucier (DEEP Wildlife Biologist).....860-675-8130 ext. 326

Laura Saucier's email: [laura.saucier@ct.gov](mailto:laura.saucier@ct.gov)

Rebecca Foster (DEEP Piping Plover Technician) .....401-741-7403

Rebecca Foster's email: [rsuzf@hotmail.com](mailto:rsuzf@hotmail.com)

Jenny Dickson (if Laura is not available).....860-675-8130

CT DEEP Law Enforcement.....(860) 424-3333

The emergency dispatcher will connect you with an Environmental Conservation Police Officer in your area. Be prepared to explain who you are (USFWS volunteer piping plover monitor), where you are (where the problem is at), and what the problem is.

### **WHO TO CONTACT IN AN EMERGENCY:**

If your life is threatened call 911.

If you see a situation that threatens (bodily harm) to the piping plover contact someone on the list below. Fill out an Incident Observation Report while you wait for law enforcement to respond. Take a picture of the incident, if possible.

**If you witness someone intentionally trying to physically harm, or has killed, a piping plover call:**

1. USFWS Law Enforcement  
Officer Doug Beaudreau  
Office: 401-364-9124 ext. 29  
Cell: 401-354-9329
2. USFWS Special Agent Tom Ricardi  
Office: 860-240-3232  
Cell:860-280-4894
3. CT DEEP Environmental Conservation Police  
(860) 424-3333 –Emergency Dispatcher will connect you with an Environmental Conservation Police Officer in your area.

**If a vandalism incident has occurred and you find a dead plover that may be**

**related to the incident call:**

1. USFWS Law Enforcement  
Officer Doug Beaudreau  
Office: 401-364-9124 ext 29  
Cell: 401-354-9329
2. Special Agent Tom  
Ricardi Office: 860-240-  
3232 Cell:860-280-4894
3. CT DEEP Environmental Conservation Police  
(860) 424-3333 –Emergency Dispatcher will connect you with an Environmental  
Conservation Police Officer in your area.

**If vandalism has occurred but the plovers are all OK call:**

DEEP Wildlife Division  
Laura Saucier (860) 675-8130  
or  
Rebecca Foster (401) 741-7403

**If you find a dead plover and there is no sign of vandalism and you think death  
may be from natural causes call:**

DEEP Wildlife Division  
Laura Saucier (860) 675-8130  
or  
Rebecca Foster (401) 741-7403

We will make arrangements to collect the carcass.

**If there is an unruly dog owner with an unleashed dog on the beach, call the  
local animal control to report the incident. SEE BELOW FOR LOCAL  
ORDINANCES.**

Bridgeport (Pleasure Beach)  
Animal Control  
203-576-7727  
203-576-7671(emerg #)

Stratford (Long/Short Beach)  
Animal Control  
203-385-4068

Old Lyme (Griswold)  
Animal Control  
860-434-3047  
860-434-1605x244

Milford (Milford Pt, E. Broadway)  
Animal Control

West Haven (Sandy Pt)  
Animal Control

Groton (Bluff Pt)  
Animal Control

## **WHAT TO REPORT TO ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS (what info to include in your message):**

- Exact location of incident
- Time of incident
- Description of action
- Description of person, vehicle, license plate number, any other pertinent information
- Your contact information for any follow-up questions they may have

Remember that while the officer may not be able to respond to the incident in a timely manner, leaving a message creates a record that there is an issue at this particular site. The officer may be able to follow up and catch chronic offenders if he/she can establish patterns of the offense with information that you have provided.

## **State of Connecticut Dog Laws:**

### **Roaming Dogs**

The Connecticut General Statutes do not mandate that dogs be leashed at all times but a dog's owner/keeper must not allow it to roam on another person's land or on public highways (including sidewalks) if it is not under his control. The methods of "control" are not defined in the statutes therefore it is a gray area as to whether a dog can be under "voice control" by its owner. Violating the state roaming law is an infraction punishable by a fine of \$92 (CGS § 22-364).

In addition to the state's roaming dog statutes, there is a statute that gives local governments the power to create leash ordinances. See below for the town ordinances for dogs in the towns that piping plovers breed in.

Additionally, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection requires that owners keep their dogs leashed in state parks at all times. Some parks have a seasonal restriction for dogs being allowed on beaches.

### **State Parks and Pets**

Pets must be on a leash (no longer than 7-feet) and under control of their owner/keeper at all times at Connecticut State Parks (CGS § 23-4-1 (f)). Owners must remove and properly dispose of pet waste left by the pet or riding animal under their control. Pets are not allowed in buildings, swimming areas, or state park campgrounds.

In addition, there are seasonal restrictions for pets on the following State Park beaches:

- Sherwood Island State Park between April 15 and September 30
- Silver Sands State Park pets prohibited from being on the beach (year-round)
- Hammonasset State Park between April 1 and November 1

- Rocky Neck State Park between May 1 and September 30
- Harkness State Park pets prohibited from being on the beach (year-round)
- Bluff Point Coastal Reserve pets required to be on leash (but we post the beach closed to dogs during the bird breeding season)

## **Town and City Dog Laws:**

**Please keep in mind that above mean-high tide is private or municipal property and below is public land. Many of these ordinances are aimed at public and town-owned property only. Beach dog ordinances usually DO NOT trump private property (that is beach) rights.**

### **Westport:**

Beaches: Compo/Burying Hill/Old Mill

#### **Dogs prohibited on beaches April 1-September 30.**

From April 1 to Sept. 30 animals are prohibited at the beaches either in or out of vehicles except when going to and from boats at Ned Dimes Marina. Beaches are defined to include the water adjacent to the property, the sand areas adjacent to the water, the parking areas, grass areas, playing areas and roads. Dogs are permitted in vehicles entering into the Soundview parking lot Monday thru Friday at anytime, weekends and holidays prior to 9 a.m. and after 5 p. m. Dogs must be on leash. Persons with dog(s) at Ned Dimes Marina (Compo Beach) and E.R. Strait Marina must have dogs on a leash.

### **Fairfield:**

Beaches: Sasco Hill, Jennings, Penfield & Fairfield

#### **Dogs prohibited on beaches April 1 –September 30.**

Parks and Rec. Section 14 - (a) Dogs or horses may enter beaches, open space areas, and marinas only on the following conditions:

(i) Dogs and horses accompanied by a person responsible for them shall be permitted to enter any town beach only during the period from October 1 to March 31. At all other times dogs and horses are forbidden to enter any town beach, including the parking areas for such beach.

### **Bridgeport:**

Beaches: Pleasure Beach

#### **Dogs are prohibited on Pleasure Beach per approved Park Management Plan.**

##### 6.04.030 - Dogs at large—Violation—Penalty.

A. No person shall permit any dog to be at large in the city at any time. A dog is at large when the animal is: (1) in any public street, alley, park or other public grounds or when off the premises of the owner or person who has custody of said dog, and not constrained by a leash, or (2) outdoors on any private property and not contained by a fence adequate to prevent the dog from leaving the yard or constrained by a leash or dog run adequate for the same purpose. B. Any person violating the terms of this section shall be fined one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) for each offense.

### **Stratford:**

Beaches: Long Beach, Short Beach

## **Dogs prohibited on beaches from April through November.**

### 152-17(a) Town of Stratford Beach Law

Dogs are not permitted on any portion of any town beach. This includes, but is not limited to, all of Short Beach Park, Long Beach, Long Beach West and the beach at The Sea Wall.

### § 83-15 Leash required; removal of feces; violations and penalties.

No owner or keeper of any dog, whether licensed or unlicensed, shall allow such dog to roam at large upon the land of another and not under the control, by leash or similar restraint, of the owner or keeper or agent of such owner or keeper, provided that nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or prohibit the legal use of hunting dogs during the open hunting or training season. The unauthorized presence of any dog on the land of any person other than the owner or keeper of such dog or any portion of a public highway, street or sidewalk or any other Town property when not under the control, by leash or similar restraint, of the owner or keeper, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of the provisions of this article. Any person who violates this article shall pay a fine of \$25 for the first offense and \$50 for the second offense, and for any subsequent offense, the same shall be a misdemeanor in violation of C.G.S. § 22-363, Nuisance, and a court appearance would be required.

## **Milford:**

Beaches: Milford Point, Myrtle & Walnut, Silver Sands SP, & East Broadway

### **Dogs prohibited on beaches.**

Sec. 4-25 Restraint and confinement—Generally. [Ord. of 9-8-1997, § 4.25]

a. It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog to fail to keep the dogs under restraint or to permit dogs to run at large upon the streets and public ways of the City or upon property other than that of the owner or keeper.

b. No owner, keeper or custodian of any dog shall fail to exercise proper care and control of such dog to prevent the same from becoming a public nuisance.

## **East Haven:**

### **Dogs required to be leashed.**

Sec. 12-5 Leashes for dogs required. No owner/keeper shall allow the dog to roam or traverse outside the owner or keeper, unless dog is securely confined upon a suitable leash or similar restraint that is a maximum of seven-feet in length held continuously in the hands of a responsible person capable of controlling the dog.

## **West Haven:**

Beaches: Sandy Point

### **Dogs prohibited from April 1-September 1.**

Per West Haven Shoreline Regulations.

## **Madison:**

**Dogs prohibited on town beaches** (per town beach and recreation guidelines).

Town Ordinance Section 5-2: On public or quasi-public property, the dog is properly on a leash of no more than ten (10) feet in length held by the owner or keeper of the dog.

### **Westbrook:**

#### **Dogs prohibited on town-owned beaches between May 1-September 30.**

Section 2-10 Use of Town Properties (c) Horses, Other Livestock, Dogs and Other Pet Animals: In no event shall any horse, other livestock, dog (except as set forth herein) or other pet animal be permitted, either leashed or unleashed, walked or ridden, on any park, athletic field, playground or beach, except in such areas and at such times as may be designated by the Board. Dogs shall be permitted on any beach between October 1 and April 30, provided they shall be properly leashed.

### **Old Saybrook:**

Beaches: Fenwick Point

#### **Dogs prohibited on beaches from May 2-October 14.**

Chapter 401 Beach Regulations § 401-8 Animals. [Amended 11-28-2005]: Dogs, horses, ponies, pets, and other animals will not be permitted anywhere on beach property; provided, however, that during the period from October 15 through May 1, the owner or keeper of a dog shall not be prohibited from transporting a leashed dog across beach property for the purpose of accessing the area below the mean high-water mark.

### **Old Lyme:**

Beaches: Griswold Point, White Sands, Mile Creek

#### **Dogs prohibited on beaches.**

§ 183-1 Adoption of regulations: The following regulations of the Point O' Woods, Old Lyme Shores, Old Colony, Miami and White Sands Beach Associations are hereby adopted by the Town of Old Lyme, applicable and enforceable within the territorial limits of each such Association: (E) No dog may be allowed to go at large or on any beach area.

### **East Lyme:**

Beaches: Hatchett's Point

**Dogs not permitted on beaches during the summer. Dogs must be leashed when off private land.**

### **Waterford:**

Beaches: Jordan Cove, Waterford Town Beach

**No dogs allowed at Waterford Beach from June 20-September 20.**