

**TOWN OF CAPE ELIZABETH
ALEWIFE REGULATIONS -2013**

Regulations for the taking of alewives shall be as follows:

A minimum unobstructed opening of two feet (2') shall be maintained at all times between the riverbank and the downstream end of the weir.

The maximum mesh size of wire, twine, or other material used in the weir shall not exceed one inch by one inch (1" x 1").

There shall be a 72-hour weekly closed season on alewives from sunrise each Thursday morning until sunrise the following Sunday morning. No fish shall be taken during this period and alewives must be allowed to escape upstream to spawning areas. During the closed season, a natural unobstructed opening of three feet by three feet (3' x3') shall be maintained in the upstream and downstream end of the trap to allow for escapement of spawning alewives and other migratory fish.

Migratory fish such as salmon, shad, or other species except alewives and blueback herring that enter the trap, shall be removed and allowed to pass upstream.

Fishing operations shall cease and all fishing gear obstructing the passage of fish shall be removed from the fishing waters not later than June 5.

The total landings in pounds or bushels and value of the catch shall be made available to the Maine Department of Marine Resources and/or National Marine Fisheries Service on request by these agencies.

The town manager shall grant harvesting rights with preference being given to commercial fishermen and to landowners abutting any stream where the harvesting is to occur. No one may enter upon the land of another for the purpose of harvesting alewives except with permission of the landowner.

Additional Regulations for Streams with Atlantic Salmon Runs

The entrance to the dipping pen or trap shall be covered by bars, slats, or spacers with a maximum width of two inches (2") between said bars, slats or spacers.

Dipping of alewives shall be confined to the dipping pen or trap.