



**Town of Fairhaven**  
Massachusetts  
**Office of the Harbormaster**  
40 Centre Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

# ANCHORAGE RULES WITHIN FAIRHAVEN WATERS

## ANCHORING

**Anchoring north of the Hurricane Barrier to the Fairhaven Bridge/ Route 6 is prohibited under all conditions within the waters of Fairhaven. This area is to the east of the channel within New Bedford Harbor as shown on charts.**

This is per order of the duly appointed Harbormaster of Fairhaven, MA. Vessels that anchor without specific permission of the Harbormaster may be removed at the owner's expense. All Towing and storage charges must be paid before the vessel is released

This order is due to bottom conditions that have demonstrated an inability to hold secure vessels at anchor. Heavy traffic due to marina, shipyard and the Mass Steamship Authority also prohibit anchoring in these waters.

Vessels may anchor north of the bridge if safe and suitable anchorage areas can be found in Fairhaven waters. Vessels anchoring in waters north of the bridge must maintain at 300 hundred feet of space between them and a marina. Vessels must also respect and maintain enough space ensure their vessel does not endanger another vessel.

## EXEMPTIONS

Vessel may apply for an exemption from this rule by contacting the Harbormaster. The Harbormaster may allow a vessel to anchor for a short time while waiting to be pulled from the water by a Fairhaven Shipyard. When a vessel is exempted the vessel must have someone onboard at all times while anchored. The person onboard must be qualified to take control of the vessel if it starts to drift.