



P.O. Box 96 • Menemsha, MA • 02552

March 11, 2024

The Chilmark Select Board
401 Middle Road
Chilmark, MA 02535

Subject: Meet the Fleet 2024

Dear Chilmark Select Board,

We would like to request permission to hold our 8th annual Meet the Fleet on **Thursday, August 1, 2024, from 3pm to 7 pm**, on the docks in Menemsha.

Like our past Meet the Fleet events, we plan to have a tent and tables around Karsten Larsen and Matt Mayhew's lots extending to our Seafood Collaborative building. We plan to have similar activities as the past, including the following: fish filet demonstrations, helicopter rescue demonstration (performed by the Coast Guard, details still pending) crab races, vessel tours (a Coast Guard and Environmental Police vessels), survival suit donning competition, fishing pictures/facts posted along the dock pilings, live music from local bands, net mending and scallop shucking competitions, fish printing, and an oyster raw bar.

This event will continue to be free. We will accept donations, sell T-shirts and tickets for raffle prizes, and have a silent auction. No beverages of any kind (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) will be served at this event. The only food handed out will be oysters from our raw bar.

Commercial fishing boats will be arranged in coordination with the Harbormaster to allow fishermen and the public to interact. Other than the Coast Guard and Environmental Police vessels, the public will not be allowed to board fishing vessels, with appropriate signage informing attendees.

We greatly appreciate the Town's continued support for this event and its celebration of our island's working waterfronts and fishermen.

Thank you,

Shelley Edmundson, Executive Director
The Martha's Vineyard Fishermen's Preservation Trust