

Many of you have inquired as to what the rules are for fishing the Scusset Fishing Pier. Last week I contacted John DeCosta from DCR who is the Park Supervisor to help clarify what the rules are at the park as a whole and at the Scusset Fishing Pier. After a few emails back and forth I was able to assemble the following interpretation of the rules in hopes of straightening out any confusion.

- Parking at the Scusset pier is the most pressing question I get . If you are going to be fishing off of the Scusset Pier when you approach the kiosk at the entrance to the park mention that **you will be fishing** at the pier. This allows a visitor to get a ‘Restricted Pass’ **FREE OF CHARGE**. The ‘Restricted Pass’ allows an angler to park at either the parking spots *near the park entrance* or *at the Park Headquarters* which is the building next to the fishing pier. This does NOT allow the angler to park at the campground, jetty, or beach entrance parking spaces. Parking anywhere other than at headquarters or at the entry of the park is a **violation** of the restricted pass.
  - o DCR asks that fishing patrons do not park in spaces labeled ‘Staff Only Parking.’ Handicapped parking spaces are reserved for individuals with appropriate handicapped license plates or placards on their vehicles.
  - o DCR Staff regularly find automobiles with restricted passes parked at the parking lot near the jetty. This is an abuse of the restricted pass. Please share this with your clubs and fellow anglers *and don’t do it!*
- Daily parking elsewhere at the park is \$14/Day for MA residents and \$20/Day for non residents.
- Season passes which are good at most DCR facilities may be purchased at DCR offices and at the following webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/get-a-parking-pass-for-massachusetts-state-parks>
- Massachusetts residents who are Seniors, defined as 62 years of age or older, may purchase a lifetime parking pass for \$10 at DCR offices and at the following webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/get-a-senior-parkspass>

In the back and forth with Supervisor DeCosta he mentioned that the Park has received more complaints relating to abuses by anglers than any other group. These abuses include inappropriate parking, playing of loud music at inappropriate hours, shining headlights in the darkness towards campers, speeding, drinking alcohol (prohibited in state parks), and littering. Along with our rights to fish we have a responsibility to be good stewards to our environment and our fellow citizens. Please share this with your clubs as well.

Thank you,

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