

ALCOHOL INFORMATION SHEET

May 5, 2015

A. Alcohol Licenses

There are three **classifications** of retail liquor licenses:

1. On-Premises (Pouring License)

Most of Rockport's alcohol licenses are for the sale of liquor to be consumed on premises whether it's for All Alcohol or Wine and Malt (Beer and Ale) beverages only. The type of entities for which a pouring license may be granted includes hotels, restaurants, taverns (not in Rockport, of course), private clubs, and war veterans associations.

2. Special (One-Day License)

One-Day liquor licenses are granted to nonprofit organizations for one specific day only to sell liquor at general on premise locations for special functions such as the Community House or T Wharf during HarvestFest.

3. Off-Premises (Package Store License)

Rockport has mostly On-Premises licenses and Special One-Day licenses for Nonprofit events. The Town has only one Off-Premises package license which is restricted to a grocery store. Note that there are two variants for off-premises licenses: 1) for Charities to sell Wine at Auction and 2) for farmer vintners to sell bottles of wine at an event such as Rockport's seasonal Saturday morning Farmer's Market that is certified by the Department of Agricultural Resources.

The **quota system** is the restriction that Massachusetts Law (General and/or Special) places on the number of on-premises and off-premises licenses a city or town can issue. By Special law Rockport has the capacity to grant up to thirty All Alcohol licenses (ten year-round licenses and twenty seasonal licenses) and five Wine and Malt licenses (three year-round licenses and two seasonal licenses) which is currently in process.

B. Authority to Grant Alcohol Licenses

1. Massachusetts General Laws

Chapter 138, also known as the “Liquor Control Act” and Special Acts of the Massachusetts General Laws provide the legal authority to grant alcohol licenses. Rockport is governed by GL Chapter 138 with the exception of Section 17 which bases quotas on population units.

Rockport license types and quotas are governed by one of its three Special Acts:

- 1) Acts of 2004, Chapter 470 (approved January 5, 2005) authorizing the Board of Selectmen to grant up to 10 year-round and 20 seasonal All Alcoholic Beverages licenses to be consumed On-Premises.
- 2) Acts of 2012, Chapter 308 (approved October 25, 2012) authorizing the Town of Rockport to grant one Off-Premises (package store) Wine and Malt Beverages license to a Grocery Store.
- 3) Acts of 2015, Chapter ____ (in process) authorizing the Board of Selectmen to issue up to three year-round and two seasonal Wine and Malt Beverages licenses to be consumed On-Premises.

2. Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC)

ABCC Regulations known as the “Blue Book” governs licensing procedures, applications, appeals processes, transfers, name changes, change of managers, change of locations, etc. Completion and submission of ABCC forms are required for all new licenses as well as for changes to the original approved alcohol license.

3. Local Licensing Authority (LLA)

The Board of Selectmen in the Town of Rockport is the LLA and has the authority to grant alcohol licenses if the applicant has been approved by the ABCC. No license may be issued to any applicant who under twenty-one years old, has been convicted of a felony, and/or is not a citizen of the United States. Other restrictions as documented in the General Laws, the ABCC regulations, and the Rockport Alcohol Regulations also apply.

C. Rockport Alcohol Licenses

There are currently 6 Year-Round All Alcohol Licenses renewable each November. Any year-round alcohol license holder who wishes to close their establishment for one week or more must get approval from the Board of Selectmen to do so. The LLA can grant up to 10 all alcohol year-round licenses authorized by Chapter 470 of the Special Acts of 2004. **As of the date above there are 4 available.**

Licensees	Manager	Address
Yankee Clipper Inn	Michael Barnhard	127 Granite Street
7 th Wave Restaurant	Talia A. Khan	7 Tuna Wharf
Rockport Music	Karen Herlitz	37 Main Street
The Grand Café at the Emerson Inn by the Sea	S. Bruce Coates	1 Cathedral Avenue
Atlantic Pizza Company	Daniel Cromidas	4 Old Harbor Road
Asuka Chinese & Japanese Restaurant	Qun Xiao Wu	3-5 Main Street

There are currently 5 Seasonal All Alcohol Licenses. The season is from April 1st to January 15th and renewable each March. The LLA can grant up to 20 all-alcohol seasonal licenses per the same Special Act as above. **As of the date above there are 15 available.**

Licensees	Manager	Address
Bracketts Oceanview Restaurant	Charles Brackett, Jr	25 Main Street
Ellen’s Harborside Restaurant	Lisa Balzarini	1 T-Wharf
My Place by the Sea	Barbara Stavropoulos	68 Bearskin Neck
The Fish Shack Restaurant	Karin Porter	21 Dock Square
Blue Lobster Grille	Maura E. McCarthy	15 Dock Square

In addition to the year-round and seasonal licenses above, the Board of Selectmen may grant an unlimited number of Special One-Day Alcohol licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to a nonprofit organization. In Rockport, there are typically six organizations who apply to sell liquor at special events.

Licensees	Applicant	Event
Rockport Rotary Club	President or Designee	LobsterFest & Fireworks
Sandy Bay Yacht Club	Ron Petoff	Functions
New Years Rockport Eve	Claire Franklin	Rockport Reunion
Chamber of Commerce	Peter Webber	HarvestFest
Friends of Rockport Athletics	Mark Rowe	Trivia Night and Dance
Good Friday Walk	Alan Battistelli	Fundraiser

Alcohol fees:

- Application Processing Fee to the Town: \$300.00
- Restaurant to sell alcohol beverages: \$1,500.00
- Function (or other) Establishment: \$1,500.00
- Combination Restaurant & Function (or other) Establishment: \$2,000.00
- Annual Renewal Fee: Same as above
- One Day Alcohol Licenses – only LLA approves and only to Non-Profit Organization - \$100.00