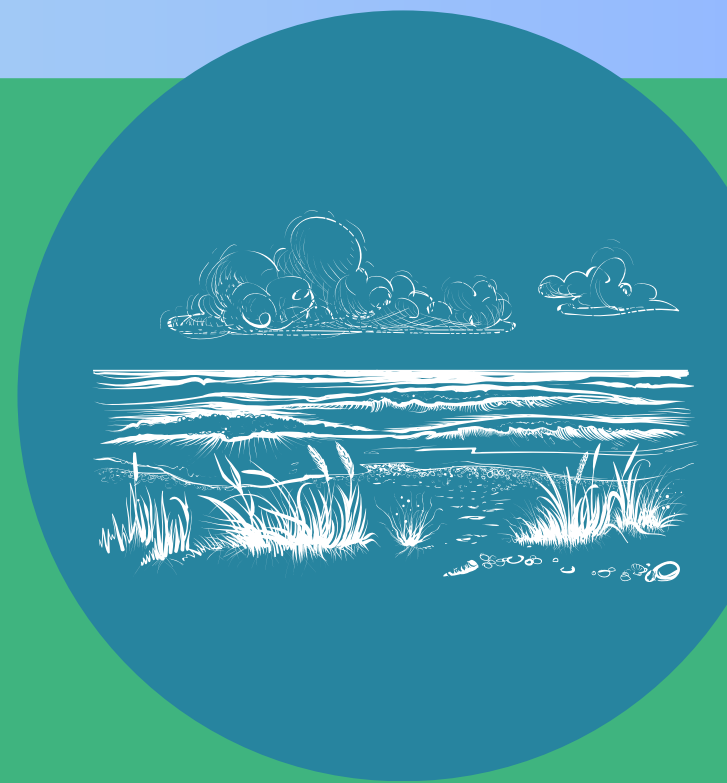


What you need to know about RI's Shoreline Access Law

What does it define?

The statute defines the expanded boundaries of the public's rights and privileges to the shore. Now the public may use the shore to the "**recognizable high tide line**," or wrack line, the maximum height reached by a rising tide, plus 10 feet. If there are multiple wrack lines, the boundary is defined by the most seaward line. The lateral access is different from perpendicular access to the shore via CRMC Rights-of-Way, but no less vital.



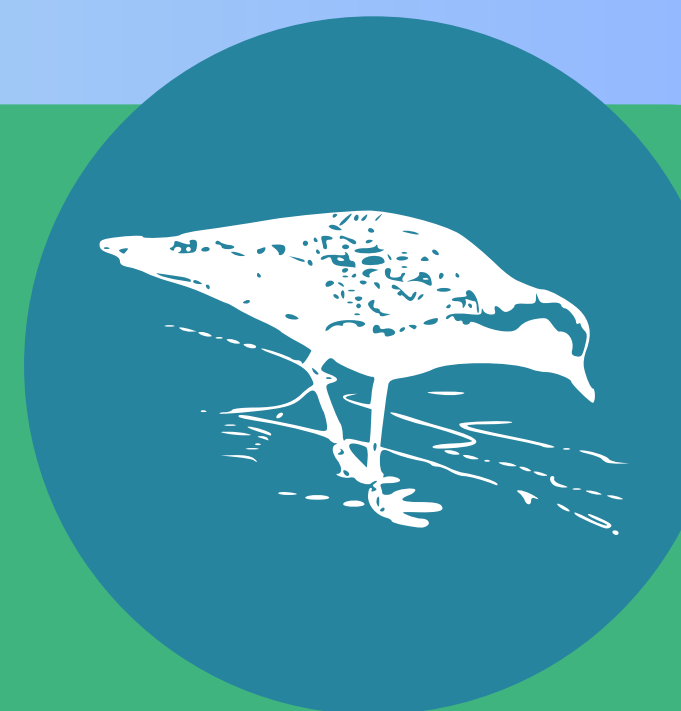
What does it allow you to do?

Where shore exists, you may exercise the rights and privileges outlined in the RI Constitution, Article 1 Section 17, and these rights shall be **liberally construed**. This includes but is not limited to: leaving the shore to fish or swim, passage along the shore, collecting seaweed, and the use and enjoyment of the natural resources of the state.



What does it not allow you to do?

Prohibited activities remain so. These might include trespassing, fires, alcohol consumption, dog restrictions, creating a public nuisance or disturbing the peace. Areas where sensitive wildlife are federally protected remain so, even if they are within the 10-ft area. No entitlement is created for the public to use privately-owned amenities.



Who to call?

For potential violations of this statute, contact your local law enforcement officials, or RI CRMC enforcement staff via phone at 401-783-3370 or email cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov (use **Enforcement** in the subject line).



Always remember...

A little consideration and kindness go a long way. There is room for all Rhode Islanders to use and enjoy the shore and Rhode Island's coastal resources.

