

Island Ad-Vantages

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

July 16, 2020 – **MCCF is concerned about the people that live and work in our coastal fishing communities.** The COVID-19 pandemic is creating many challenges including food insecurity for many who are struggling to have sufficient work and resources to feed their families. The dependence of these communities on fishing and the seafood economy also adds a significant vulnerability to many of the families that work in this sector.

The Maine Community Foundation recently provided a \$10,000 grant to the Center as part of their Emergency Response Fund to support local non-profits to help address COVID-19 related challenges. Because our mission is to help secure a future for fishing communities, the Center is partnering with several local entities to distribute food to some of those in need. As part of this effort, we will provide funds to purchase locally caught seafood products for distribution by peninsula food pantries, Island Nursing Home and through programs managed by the Healthy Island Project.

Simultaneously, the Center is coordinating a campaign to encourage residents and visitors to eat more local seafood. The week of August 1-7 is "Fish ForeverYONE" week and many area restaurants and retailers will promote seafood products and dishes to help the seafood supply chain and to educate consumers. Not only is seafood a healthy dietary choice, but also buying local seafood helps the local seafood businesses and harvesters. Working with other local partners, MCCF will produce an educational pamphlet that describes some of the local species and the importance to the seafood sector. Businesses who choose to be included will be listed in order to help consumers find places to purchase and enjoy seafood. Stay tuned and eat as much local seafood as you can!

Do you have a question about our fisheries? Send it to info@coastalfisheries.org or call 207.367.2708. Learn more about MCCF by visiting us online at www.coastalfisheries.org.

FISHERIES LOG

Prices to Harvesters in Stonington

Lobsters (shedders): \$2.50/lb.

Bait (fresh pogies): \$80/bu.

Fuel (diesel): \$1.90/gal.