

Island  **THE WEEKLY**
Ad-Vantages  **PACKET**
THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE
By: Tate Yoder

Maine's on Stage

July 4, 2024

This may get some head turns and side eyes... but for most of my life, summer has been my least favorite time of year. Now I'm not here to debate which season is the best (it's clearly fall), but I've recently had a renewed sense of love for summer, and it's been throwing me for a loop.

Growing up in Maine, especially as a teenager, summer was always stressful. There were three months to make enough money for the year so I wouldn't have to bug my parents for gas money, could take my girlfriend out to eat, and buy myself a new pair of shoes. I rarely enjoyed most of summer and by Labor Day, I was exhausted and ready for a break - but within a blink of an eye we were back in school.

Many of you can relate in your own ways to this mad dash to make the most of summer. The stark contrast between seasons and opportunities in Maine is what intensifies the highs and lows of living here.

It's been years since I've been out of school though and for the first time since I started working, the positives are really starting to outweigh the negatives for me. And I've been fighting it too. As a closeted summer-hater for most of my life, I don't want to admit that I'm changing. While it's easy for me to complain about the short, fast paced nature of summer, the best parts about Maine are just simply put on stage for all to see in the summer. I'd much rather be a part of that than not.

The list of aspects of what makes Maine so great is endless. To name a few: bountiful seafood, caring communities, pristine nature, fresh air, local produce, genuine people, and beautiful landscapes. Year-round residents are fortunate enough to experience this in every flavor of each season. But in the summertime, it's just simply a bit more accessible for all. The summer season is short, can be a bit much at times, and always leaves you wanting more, but I'm trying to remind myself that that's what makes it all so special. It's worth enjoying, in any way we can. Wishing you all a wonderful and safe Fourth of July.

Stop by the Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries or visit www.coastalfisheries.org for information on our important work to help keep commercial fisheries sustainable.

Prices to Harvesters in Stonington, as of 7/1/2024

Lobsters (select): \$5.50/lb.
Lobster (hard): \$4.90/lb.
Lobster (shedder) \$4.15/lb.
Bait (pogies): \$90/box
Fuel (diesel): \$3.11/gal

Oceanographic Buoy I-01

44°6'10"N 68°6'44"W - Frenchboro
Top Temperature (1 meter): 50.22°F 10.12°C
Bottom Temperature (50 meters): 45.46°F 7.48°C
Source: www.neracoos.org