

Important Information for Registered Conferees

Mandatory Orientation Session

All conferees are **REQUIRED** to attend a welcoming “Fire and Water” orientation session shortly after arrival in order to receive current/updated information on safety and island living, as well as information on their conference. As safety and insurance regulations change from year to year, even conferees who have attended orientation sessions in previous years are required to attend.

- ∞ **Smoking/Open Flame:** Fire is our chief concern, and thus smoking is only allowed while on first floor porches and decks and on the pier. Smoking and the lighting of matches, candles, incense, or any open flame are prohibited in all Star Island buildings. There is no smoking on the main porch of the Gosport & Oceanic buildings or on any porch where combustible materials (such as propane tanks) are present. Due to the danger of brush fires, smoking is not permitted on the grounds on any part of the island, including the rocks. Exemptions to this policy for special events (such as a bonfire) or other such reasons are only permitted with prior approval of the designated island manager. Violators will be required to leave the island on the next boat. Any conferee leaving under these circumstances will be charged for the full conference period.
- ∞ **Fire Drills & Emergencies:** If at any time you hear an electric horn or the rapid ringing of bells, you **MUST** evacuate to the flagpole on the front lawn and await instructions. Violators will be required to leave on the next boat and charged for the full conference period.
- ∞ **Electrical:** We generate our own electricity on the island. Due to the limitations of the island’s electrical system, and for safety reasons, conferees are asked not to bring appliances with heating elements (e.g. heating pads, hair dryers, hot water immersion heaters). Conferees with medical equipment electrical needs (i.e. three-pronged outlets, CPAP machines) should specify these needs on their registration form.
- ∞ **Firearms/Fireworks:** Neither are permitted on Star Island. Violators will be required to leave on the next boat and charged for the full conference period.
- ∞ **Tobacco Products, Alcohol & Illegal Drugs:** Compliance is expected with all federal and state laws governing the use of alcoholic beverages by persons under 21 years of age, use of tobacco products by persons under 18 years of age, and the possession and/or use of illegal drugs. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted in public areas (except if included as part of a conference function). Alcohol and tobacco products are not available for sale on the island, nor may they be ordered through the messenger service. Those who engage in excessive drunkenness or possess or use illegal drugs will be required to leave on the next boat and charged for the full conference period.
- ∞ **Syringe Disposal:** All used syringes or “sharps” must be disposed of in designated containers in the Improved Access Bathroom (off of the lobby) or the First Aid Station. Do not dispose of sharps in guest rooms or in public trash containers. If someone is “stuck” as a result of careless disposal, the individual responsible may be required to undergo a

series of blood tests locally at his or her own expense.

- ≈ **Pets:** Conferees and guests are not permitted to have pets on Star Island. Service animals are welcomed, but we ask that you provide us with advanced notice.
- ≈ **Breakwater:** The breakwater is off limits at all times. Stay back from the water's edge elsewhere on the island as well, since the surf and tides are unpredictable.
- ≈ **Flora/Fauna:** Island ecology is delicate—please do not pick flowers or collect any animal, plant, or soil samples.
- ≈ **Valuables:** Guests are discouraged from bringing valuable items to Star. There is access to some secured storage if necessary. Star Island Corporation is not responsible for lost or stolen articles.
- ≈ **Minor Children:** Parents retain full responsibility for their minor children (under age 18) at all times.
- ≈ **Outstanding Charges:** All outstanding charges must be paid in full; otherwise permission to return to the island in a subsequent season may be denied.

Star Island is private property owned and operated by the Star Island Corporation, dedicated to religious and educational activities. All conferees, guests and day visitors come to the island with permission from the Star Island Corporation. This permission may be revoked at any time if, in the sole discretion of those in charge of island operations, such action is deemed necessary because of behavior that causes disruption of a meeting, program, or activity; creates a threat to the health and safety of others; or causes damage to island property.

Medical Information

Important Notes on Medications

Everyone must bring enough of any needed medicine to cover the length of the stay **PLUS AN EXTRA FOUR DAYS**. There are no prescription medications kept in stock on-island. Additionally, there is no guarantee that we can get specific prescriptions filled. When we are able to send a prescription to the mainland, we must ask for payment of the full retail price as well as our messenger fee. We can provide the pharmacy's receipt, but cannot submit insurance reimbursement paperwork.

Star Island is a small island in a remote location with access only by boat. Although there is a first aid station on the island, it is equipped for only basic emergency and first aid treatment. The first aid station may not be staffed at all times. In addition, the travel time to an off island medical facility is a minimum of an hour and may be much longer depending upon weather and sea conditions.

There are inherent risks in traveling to and staying on Star Island which cannot be eliminated, such as exposure to elements on a remote island including but not limited to inclement weather, wildlife and unmonitored terrain and woods; the potential for others participat-

ing in conference programs to act in a negligent manner that may cause or contribute to injury, harm, or death; and lack of access to a medical facility without extensive travel by boat and motor vehicle.

The Star Island Corporation strongly recommends not participating in a conference if you suffer from any medical condition which might reasonably require emergency medical response including but not limited to heart conditions, the last trimester of pregnancy, severe allergic reactions to wildlife, illnesses which require ongoing medical treatment or monitoring and other similar conditions. Additionally, if you have had or expect to have had recent surgery, neurological problems resulting in impaired mobility, mental health issues requiring use of medications, or other similar conditions, or if you use or expect to use specialized medications, medical equipment, portable oxygen, or other similar items, the Star Island Corporation strongly recommends consulting your physician to ensure that Star Island is a suitable environment for you to visit. Guests on Star Island are responsible for their own medical condition while on the island, including monitoring of health conditions and making sure that they have adequate medication to address any possible medical issues which may arise.

Leisure Activities

A lifeguard is on duty at the dock for swimming, boating, and snorkeling. Other conference-sponsored outdoor recreation includes hikes on the rocks, fishing, tennis, basketball, volleyball, softball, and whiffleball. We have some athletic equipment, but you may want to bring your own tennis racquet or softball glove. For safety, all softball participants must use the island's bats and low-flight softballs. Our music director is available for selected conference chapel services, choral groups, and other musical activities. In addition, the director conducts a chorus of staff who perform in the "Pelican Show" each week for conferees.

Boat, Parking and Luggage Information

Important Notes on Luggage

Because it is necessary to transport all freight to the island via boat, **LUGGAGE LIMITS ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED, SO PLEASE PACK ACCORDINGLY.** Each person may bring: one small carry-on bag (a backpack or small tote, including your personal items), a specialty item, such as a musical instrument, tennis racquet or easel, and one "checked" bag (a duffle bag without wheels is preferable) weighing no more than 40 lbs. or two bags weighing no more than 25 lbs. each. There will be a scale in place at "check-in" to determine weight. Conference staff with special freight needs must make arrangements for such freight through their conference leaders ahead of time. Star Island Corporation and Captain's Fishing Parties assume no responsibility for the handling, damage, or loss of any luggage belonging to Star Island guests.

For the 2009 season, all conference boats will depart from Rye Harbor in Rye, NH. This dock is easily accessible, and the trip to and from Star usually takes about 30 minutes. All

conferees will receive boat assignments and instructions directly from their conference leaders as part of the conference acceptance materials. They will have the most up-to-date information specific to your conference which may supersede information in the Blue Book.

Parking is available at Rye Harbor and will cost \$10/day (or any portion of a day). Because we use block parking, you must arrive and depart on your assigned boat. Star Island Corporation and the Pease Development Authority, Division of Ports and Harbors, assume no responsibility for the cars parked at Rye Harbor.

Parking fees and boat fares (\$41.00 for adults; \$28.00 for children 2–12; no charge for children under two) will be added to your room and board bill, payable on-island.

Overnight conference and Pelican guests may travel to Star from Rye via the 20-passenger vessel Uncle Oscar, or by private charter. Overnight conference guests must make arrangements through conference chairs, and Pel guests through the Front Desk. Uncle Oscar operates seven days a week from mid-June to mid-September, generally with three to four runs per day. Information about fares and parking are available at (603) 964-6446 or www.uncleoscar.com.

We can not accommodate larger boats on our dock due to the needs of work boats and ferries. Access to Star Island by sailing or motoring a private boat is not recommended. We have no available moorings. Private boats *can* be moored in Gosport Harbor—contact Kittery and Portsmouth Yacht Clubs for permission and information—and access to the island can be gained by rowing a dinghy to our dock.

Boat Schedule

If your conference is not listed here, you will receive boat assignments from your conference registrar. All boat times are subject to change.

Arts, Natural History, All Star I and II, Lifespan Religious Education, International Affairs, Darwin, Star Gathering I and II, and LOAS I and II:
DEPART RYE HARBOR: 2:00 & 3:45 P.M. **DEPART STAR ISLAND:** 8:15 & 10:15 A.M.

You will receive specific boat assignments from your conference registrar. Because we use block parking, ferry passengers must arrive and depart as assigned by the registrar.

YAC (4- & 7-night), YRUU, Meditation, Digital Photography Workshop:
DEPART RYE HARBOR: 3:45 P.M. **DEPART STAR ISLAND:** 10:15 A.M.

Natural History Conference:

DEPART RYE HARBOR: 2:00 P.M. **DEPART STAR ISLAND:** 8:15 A.M.

Elderhostel:

DEPARTS RYE HARBOR: 2:00 P.M. **DEPARTS STAR ISLAND:** 10:15 A.M.