



AQUARIUM CONTACT: Dave Sigworth, (203) 852-0700, ext. 2232,
dsigworth@maritimeaquarium.org

PARKING AUTHORITY CONTACT: Kathryn Hebert, (203) 854-7736.
khebert@norwalkct.org

DISCOUNTED PARKING AVAILABLE ONLINE **FOR MARITIME AQUARIUM GUESTS**

NORWALK, CT (July 13, 2016) – Paying for parking just got even easier – and less expensive – for guests of the The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, thanks to a discounted advance online option now available with the Norwalk Parking Authority’s Maritime Garage.

Aquarium guests purchasing their tickets in advance online now can enjoy the additional option of prepaying online for their parking in the Maritime Garage as well. (The seven-level municipal parking garage is across the street from the Aquarium’s main entrance.) In addition to the convenience, paying online will save guests 20 percent off the parking rate, while also ensuring a parking space inside the garage during busy periods, such as summer and holiday weekends.

Guests prepaying for parking in the garage should print the barcoded parking pass or send it to their smart phone. When arriving at the garage, scan the barcode at the entry gate and again later at the exit gate.

“This is an excellent new option for our guests that makes their visit easier and more economical,” said Aquarium President Dr. Brian Davis. “Purchasing Aquarium tickets online in advance lets our guests skip the lines and get right to the fun. And now, when it’s time to go home, this new option allows them to get in their cars and breeze out of the garage.”

Parking Authority Chairman Dick Brescia noted “this is just the latest advancement by the Parking Authority to make an Aquarium visit easier for guests. The reserved parking pass is good for the day, so Aquarium guests have time to include the shops, great restaurants and other attractions of South Norwalk during their visit.”

In November, a parking pay station was installed inside the Aquarium for guests parked in the Maritime Garage. Until then, parkers’ only options were to pay inside the garage lobby or at the exit gates. (The pay station remains available in the Aquarium, near the Gift Shop, for guests who do not prepay for garage parking.)

“Drivers in South Norwalk should know that they can pay for parking in more ways than ever, including paying with their smart phone through the ParkMobile app,” Brescia said. “And they can locate open spaces around the city using our Parker app.”

New Discounted Online PrePay Parking Option for Maritime Aquarium Guests

Learn more about planning your visit to The Maritime Aquarium, including current special exhibits and IMAX[®] movies, at www.maritimeaquarium.org.

To learn more about where to park in Norwalk and how you can find available parking spaces or pay for parking right from your smart phone, visit www.norwalkpark.org/smartparking.

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Press materials are available on the Aquarium web site:
www.MaritimeAquarium.org/news-room

Download a variety of Aquarium photos, whenever they're needed, on Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/maritimeaquarium>. You can also receive specific photos via e-mail or a photo CD. Contact Dave Sigworth.

About the Maritime Aquarium

The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit institution whose mission is to inspire people of all ages to appreciate and protect the Long Island Sound ecosystem and the global environment through living exhibits, marine science and environmental education. Learn more at www.maritimeaquarium.org

The Maritime Aquarium receives support from the State of Connecticut DECD's Offices of Culture and Tourism.

About the Norwalk Parking Authority

The Norwalk Parking Authority, comprised of five local citizens appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Common Council, is a financially self-sustaining organization responsible for the operation and maintenance of the municipal parking system in Norwalk. Its annual operating budget of \$6.2 million is not financed by taxpayer dollars. The Authority is committed to collaborating with community organizations while providing exceptional customer service to parking customers. The Norwalk Parking Authority can be reached at (203) 831-9063 or at www.norwalkpark.org.