



August 25, 2026

On behalf of the Essex Division of the Greater Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce, we are very pleased to invite you to participate in the **41st** Annual Clamfest Competition at Shepard Memorial Park in Essex on Saturday, October 24, 2026. (Rain Location: Essex Elementary School). The Chowder Competition will be held from Noon until 2:00 pm (or until supplies run out). There is terrific excitement around this classic Fall event, and we anticipate that many restaurants from around our region will participate, with upwards of 800-900 chowder tasters.

We ask each restaurant to provide **20 gallons** of clam chowder (in your own containers) and all associated serving utensils. This year, to help defray the costs of participation, each participating restaurant will receive a \$500 stipend after the event. The Chamber will also provide the tables, chairs, all tasting cups and spoons. Serving will begin at Noon and will last for approximately two hours. Arrival and setup time is 10:30 am, and participants must be ready to serve by 11:45 am. We encourage you to have fun decorating your table to promote your restaurant and the event. No tents for this event, please.

As has been the custom, the attending public will be asked to vote for their favorite chowder. The Winner of the People's Choice Award will be appropriately recognized, promoted, and presented a trophy at the Essex Division Christmas Party in December and given a courtesy six-month Standard Banner Ad on our capeannvacations.com, website (\$750 value).

A full schedule of events is being planned for the day, including many crafters, live music, family entertainment, food trucks and a beer vendor. There will be significant advanced publicity providing high promotional exposure for participating restaurants.

We also ask that you complete the separate Board of Health application **ONLINE** by **September 24, 2026**. If you submit your application to the Essex BOH by the due date, you do not need to include an application fee, as you will be covered under the Chamber's permit (**if you submit it after September 24th, you will be charged a non-refundable, \$75 late filing fee.**)

REGISTRATION FORM FOR CLAMFEST COMPETITION 2026

Restaurant	Contact
Phone	Email

*Please return this form by September 20, 2026 to Michelle Pepin
email: michelle@capeannchamber.com*

GREATER CAPE ANN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Serving Essex, Gloucester, Ipswich, Manchester-by-the-Sea & Rockport

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