

Town of Edisto Beach

Monthly Highlights

May 2024



IMPORTANT

Signup for
CodeRed Weather
Alerts by selecting
the button below.



And subscribe to
the Edisto Beach
Website [HERE](#).

Partners in Fire Safe SC include the SC State Firefighters' Assoc., the SC State Association of Fire Chiefs, the SC Fire Marshal Association, the SC Chapter of the International Assoc. of Arson Investigators, and the SC Office of State Fire Marshal.

[Click HERE for additional information on Fire Safe SC.](#)

Fire Safe Community Designation

The Edisto Beach Fire Department was one of 154 South Carolina fire departments across the state to receive the "Fire Safe South Carolina" designation. There are over 500 fire departments in South Carolina.

Fire Safe South Carolina is a community risk reduction program and provides this designation to fire departments who continually work to reduce fires and related injuries in South Carolina, which results in decreased risks for residents and firefighters.

To receive the designation, fire departments must complete courses to improve data quality, must train community partners to deliver in-home safety visits, and must further develop their skills through online National Fire Academy courses in risk reduction and assessments.

We thank the following volunteer and career firefighters for their work on this project: Rich Baretto, Cameron Andrews, Thad Daise, Kate Hall, Cindy Lentz, Bess Watson, Ken Sallenger, and Denney Conley. Thank you for all you do for the Town of Edisto Beach and our residents!

FIRE SAFE
South Carolina



A COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM

Council Resolution: Hurricane Preparedness Week

At its April 11th meeting, Town Council approved the Hurricane Preparedness Week Resolution, designating May 5-11, 2024, as Hurricane Preparedness Week.

A lack of hurricane awareness and preparation happens often. By knowing areas of vulnerability and what actions to take, the effects of a hurricane disaster can be reduced.

Hurricane hazards come in many forms, including storm surge, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding. It is important for the Town and its residents to be prepared for hurricane season.

In this month's Monthly Highlights, many recommendations from FEMA and the SC Emergency Management Office are included. The Town will also hold an informational session for residents on hurricane preparedness in the near future. We will announce this date when it is confirmed.

As well, Colleton County officials will hold a tabletop exercise at the end of May with all county emergency personnel and Town staff, an annual event held prior to the hurricane season.

Please take this time to prepare yourself, your family, and your property for hurricane season.

FEMA: 5 Steps to Take for Hurricane Preparedness

FEMA reminds us of the importance of preparing for hurricane season. As we all know, being ready can make a big difference in response and recovery. For homeowners and families, FEMA suggests we do the following during Hurricane Preparedness Week:

- Have a communication plan. Talk to your family about where to meet if separated; include an out-of-town location in the event of an evacuation. Keep a list of emergency contacts on paper (internet may not be accessible during or after a storm) and place in a waterproof container. Practice your plan with those in your household.
- Network with neighbors. Talk to your neighbors about what you are doing to prepare, the possible risks, and ways to strengthen your home before a hurricane. It is good to have a network of people who can check on one another.
- Prepare a hurricane kit. Make sure you have what you need to survive and well in advance of a hurricane: medicine, flashlights and extra batteries, several days supply of food and water for your family and pets, first aid kit, and battery-powered radio.
- Strengthen your home. Improve your home's ability to withstand hurricane conditions by cutting weak branches and trees, clearing your yard, cover up windows and doors.
- Get your vehicle ready. Be ready ahead of time in the event of an evacuation by filling your gas tank and having an emergency kit in your vehicle.

Plan ahead and be safe!



Colleton County Fire-Rescue Emergency Management Division works with the SC Emergency Management Division to develop emergency response plans and coordination and implementation of those plans during an emergency, such as in a hurricane. The County works closely with state and local officials in four key areas: preparation, mitigation, response, and recovery.

The Town of Edisto Beach works closely with Colleton County in preparing for possible hurricanes. A tabletop exercise is held yearly with all county emergency management personnel and the Town in order to ensure action plans are accurate.

Since hurricanes and tropical storms threaten all areas of South Carolina, all South Carolinians must be prepared for hurricane season. This statement is even more important for coastal towns such as Edisto Beach.

As the need arrives, the Town will be in close contact with Colleton County, and preparation and action plans may be found at the county website: <https://colletonfire.com/em/hurricane/>. This website also provides information on watches vs. warnings, extreme wind warnings, hurricane zones, evacuation routes, and important contacts. Please do your homework ahead of time to keep yourself, your families, and others safe.

We encourage all to sign-up for CodeRed alerts, and a link to register is always found on the first page of the Town’s Monthly Highlights.

Town staff and Bay Creek Park Market vendors honored Mr. Mark Phoenix during the second week of the 2024 Market season. Mr. Phoenix, affectionately known as “Big Daddy,” died on January 25, 2024.

Mr. Phoenix sold pork skins at the Market since 2015. He was a favorite among Market shoppers and vendors. His ready smile, vibrant personality, and positive attitude charmed all who came his way.

Mr. Phoenix had a large family with three daughters and one son, siblings, nieces and nephews, and our condolences are with his family.

Mr. Phoenix lived on Johns Island, SC, but always loved coming to Edisto. He will be missed by the Town staff who worked with him, by the Market vendors who worked alongside him, and by the many residents and visitors who knew him.



BCP Market vendors honoring Big Daddy



April Town Council Meeting Highlights

At the regular monthly Town Council meeting held on April 11, 2024, the following are a few of the items approved by Council:

- AirMedCare Network Membership agreements for Town residents and Town staff.
- Reappointment of R. Morrison M. Payne as the Town of Edisto Beach Municipal Judge.
- Appointment of Barry A. Stephens to the Planning Commission.
- Special Event Application for the following Chamber of Commerce events:
 - 2024 Movies in the Park for June 12, July 10, August 14, September 18, and December 13, 2024.
 - 2024 Fall Festival & Turtle Tide Art Auction on October 12, 2024.
 - 2024 Edisto Beach Road Race on November 23, 2024.
 - 34th Annual Edisto Beach Christmas Parade on December 14, 2024.

As a reminder, Council agendas and minutes are found on our website [HERE](#).



AirMedCare Network

On April 11, 2024, Town Council approved the AirMedCare Network Membership agreements for both Town residents and Town staff.

The agreement for residents provides transport for medical necessity by an AirMedCare network provider, with the following requirements:

- applicable for any individual who resides within the boundaries of the Town;
- transport must be from a pickup location in Colleton or Charleston counties;
- if the covered individual transported is uninsured at the time of transport, the company will bill the covered individual at the "Medicare allowable rate" for the transport.

An upgrade benefit is available to covered individuals (any individual who resides within the boundaries of the Town) who may elect to obtain a full household membership (which eliminates the exceptions listed above). An application must be completed and the following fees apply: \$55 for standard annual rate; or \$45 for Senior annual rate (available to the primary and secondary household member if they are 60 years of age or older). If you are interested in this option, please contact Keith Davis with the AirMedCare Network at keith.davis@gmr.net.