

Town of Edisto Beach

Monthly Highlights

July 2024



IMPORTANT

Signup for
CodeRed Weather
Alerts by selecting
the button below.



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

Project FAQs

- Primary benefit is to reduce risk of damage to life and structure behind dunes.
- Easements will allow the Corps' contractor to build the dune and berm designed to reduce risk of damage by coastal storms.
- Project includes a vegetated dune and berm, which were designed to maximize risk reduction for the relative cost.

Additional FAQs may be found at: [Project FAQs](#)

Edisto Beach Coastal Storm Risk Management Project

The Edisto Beach Coastal Storm Risk Management Project with the United States Army Corps of Engineers is progressing, and the Town and the Corps are working diligently to keep to the proposed scheduled, which anticipates construction to be completed by May 2026.

As to the various tasks needed to get to the completion date, we anticipate the project appraisal work to begin July 2024. Requests for easements will be sent out following the completion of the appraisals. The 95% design of the project is to be completed by February 28, 2025. The RFP for the work should be issued in June 2025, with a bid opening in August 2025 and the contract awarded in September 2025. Following the notice to proceed to the contractor in October 2025, construction will begin in late fall 2025 and early 2026 following the tourist season and the turtle season. The construction is estimated to take four months.

Town Council, Town staff, and the Beachfront Management Committee have worked together with the Army Corps to ensure this project stays on track with weekly conference calls and various update meetings scheduled.

The importance of this project for our beach and beachfront homeowners cannot be overstated. With a cost share of 65% federal/35% local on the initial construction, and 50%/50% on subsequent nourishments, and with 100% federal costs for storm damage, this project will ensure our beach is protected as much as possible.



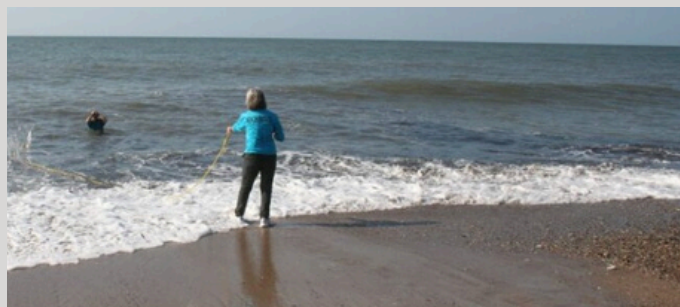
Training: Police & Fire Departments

The Town of Edisto Beach Police Department and Fire Department conducts regular and consistent training with members of the departments.

The Police Department recently held monthly departmental trainings on juvenile procedures, weapon retention, and felony traffic stops (see photo below).

Assistant Chief of Police Casey Herring recently completed Specific Skills Instructor Training at Charleston Police Department, which was taught by the SC Criminal Justice Academy and also participated in the Distracted Driving for Law Enforcement held by the Municipal Association of SC. Officer David McWatters also completed the Specific Skills Instructor training at the SC Criminal Justice Academy.

Beach Patrol officers participated in training with Police Chief Daniel Seyle and Officer Greg Poole in March as they readied for the upcoming tourist season, and recent training focused on live shallow water rescue.



As part of the Edisto Beach Fire Department's continuing training efforts, the department conducted a live hands-on training on June 17 at an Edisto Beach house scheduled for demolition. The training involved apparatus positioning drills with the ladder truck and the engine, structure fire operations with water flow, forcible entry, breaching, and vertical ventilation, fire hose lays, search and rescue, communications, and firefighter safety. Chief Conley, Assistant Chief Sallenger, Engineer Kizer and six firefighters were involved. St. Paul's Fire Department also participated in the training. The training scenarios were conducted for approximately five hours with two hours of cleanup.

The Town gives a hearty "thank you" to Jim and Kathy Klopp, the homeowners, for going to great lengths to permit the Fire Department to use their property for the live hands on-training.



July 4th on the Creek

The Town of Edisto Beach will host **July 4th on the Creek** at Bay Creek Park from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

On July 4th, gather your family and friends, pack a picnic dinner, and join us for a night of fun and fireworks. The fun includes games, karaoke, music, and a spectacular fireworks show to end the evening with a bang!

This is a free event sponsored by the Town of Edisto Beach. Event tee-shirts will be available for purchase.

As well, please check the Edisto Chamber of Commerce [Calendar](#) for a complete list of summer events.



Turtle Season - Reminder

We noted in our June Monthly Highlights that May 1 to October 31 is turtle season, and all lights must be turned off at dusk. Please note this includes flashlights, both hand-held and on cell phones. Also, dogs must be on leashes during the turtle season. We ask all to be mindful of the turtle season and follow the beach rules, which may be found here: [Protect Sea Turtles](#).

The photo below, courtesy of Cameron Andrews, was taken on June 20 at approximately 11 p.m. near Beach Access 21. The turtle headed back to the ocean after laying her eggs. Let's all make a conscious effort to protect the sea turtles during this nesting season.



Colleton County Legislative Delegation Meeting, August 13

The Colleton County Legislative Delegation will hold a meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Colleton County Memorial Library, and all county residents are invited to attend this meeting.

As well, Sue Keith from the Legislative Delegation office has informed the Town the following boards/commissions have openings:

- Colleton County Board of Voter Registration and Elections (3)
- Foster Care Review Board (5)
- Forestry Commission (3)
- Technical College of the Lowcountry Board of Trustees (1)

An application for appointment may be obtained from the Delegation office located at 403 E. Washington Str., Walterboro, or via email to skeith@colletoncounty.org. Applicants must be registered voters in Colleton County, and applications are due by July 25, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.



Beach Wheelchair Donation

On June 20, Emma Hart of Edisto Best Rentals donated a beach wheelchair to the Fire Department. The beach wheelchair program is very much in use during the summer months, and the Town appreciates the addition of another beach wheelchair. Thank you, Ms. Hart, for your generosity!



June Town Council Meeting Highlights

At the regular monthly Town Council meeting held on June 13, 2024, the following are a few of the items approved by Council:

- Second Reading of Ordinance 2024-09 to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget. A Public Hearing on this matter was held prior to the monthly meeting.
- First Reading of Ordinance 2024-11 to continue participation in the state insurance benefits program regarding county/municipality councilmember coverage.
- Town of Edisto Beach Emergency Operations Plan as revised was approved.
- Memorandum of Understanding with SC Law Enforcement Division (SLED) for access to the automated license plate reader, which shares and leverages information for the benefit of the citizens of South Carolina by better enforcing criminal laws through a cooperative approach.
- Emergency Procurement for Lift Station Pump/100 Block in the amount of \$7,150 from Pete Duty & Associates for a new pump for the 100 block lift station.
- Special Event Application for the Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament to be held July 17-21 at the Marina and Bay Creek Park from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

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



Starfish Award

Town Council recognized Janet Oakley at its June 13 monthly meeting with a Starfish Award for her work as a member of the Planning Commission, having served from May 31, 2020, to May 31, 2024. Janet's contributions to this Committee have been invaluable, and the Town appreciates her contributions for the betterment of Edisto Beach. Thank you for your great work, Janet!



Keep Edisto Beautiful Update

The Keep Edisto Beautiful (KEB) Board of Directors elected officers at its May 28 meeting as follows:

- Krystal Parsons, President
- Mindy Friddle, Vice President
- Claire Ducet, Secretary

Kristi Outland serves as Director of the program, and all Board members were appointed by Town Council.

The KEB Board is working on a website update, and we will share that information once the website is up and running.



NO LITTERING