

Town of Edisto Beach

Monthly Highlights

September 2025



IMPORTANT

Signup for
CodeRed Weather
Alerts by selecting
the button below.



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

Vacancies/Town Committees

Please use the
link below to
apply for
committee
vacancies on the
ATAX Committee
(lodging sector),
Construction
Board of
Appeals, and
Zoning Board of
Appeals. Apply
by September 3.

[Committee
Application](#)

Hurricane Season Still Upon Us

Historical statistics confirm that the month of September is the most active month for hurricane activity. The SC Hurricanes Comprehensive Summary, updated as of June 18, 2025, reports that a typical hurricane is approximately 300 miles in diameter – and, as we experienced with Hurricane Erin – even though the hurricane may not make landfall on the coast, we will still experience the far-reaching impacts of heavy rain, coastal surge, high winds, etc. From 1851-2024, impacts to South Carolina occurred most in the month of September with a number of 92; the month of October follows with 59 impacts.

As we head into the final months of hurricane season, please be weather aware and continue to be prepared for whatever may come. Some safety reminders:

- **Know Your Zone:** As per the SCEMD website, Edisto Beach is located in Zone A. Knowing this information can help with being aware of vulnerability to storm surge on our coast.
- **Make a Plan:** Disasters strike without warning and being prepared will help ensure you and your family are safe. Family disaster planning, emergency kits, preparing for your pets in the event of an evacuation, and checking on neighbors who have health issues can help to keep all safe.

Additional information may be found at the SCEMD site by clicking on this link: [SCEMD Preparedness](#)

As always, Town officials remind all residents to sign-up for Code Red Alerts and Town Notifications by clicking the two links found at the top left of this page.

Portable Generator Safety

As noted by Fire Safe South Carolina, generators are a convenient source of emergency power when the lights go out; however, generators produce carbon monoxide (CO) which can cause death.

Some safety tips to remember when using a portable generator:

- have battery-operated or battery back-up CO alarms in the home
- use the proper outlets (three prongs) and do not overload the generator
- never connect generators to household wiring without installing a transfer switch. A transfer switch helps to keep electricity traveling in the correct direction and helps protect utility workers from electrocution
- only use generators outdoors; never use in an attached garage
- keep the generator at least 20 feet from doors, windows, and vent openings
- never use as a permanent source of electricity
- protect the generator from rain or flooding
- before refueling, shut down the generator and allow it to cool
- only use the recommended fuel.

Following these tips will help keep you, others, and your home safe.

As a reminder, home generators or partial home generators installed permanently require a Town of Edisto building permit. Please contact our Building Department at 843-869-2505 if you have any questions.



Reminder: Be Septic Safe

As a reminder, septic system maintenance is very important for your home and property, as well as for the good of the community.

While South Carolina state law does not require septic system inspections after construction, inspections are important to a septic system's overall health. Regular inspections may save time and money by catching problems early. A broken or failing septic system can damage the environment and the health of your family. Many septic problems are easier to fix if they are caught early.

A well-maintained septic system can last 20-30 years. To get the most from your septic system, the Clemson Cooperative Extension recommends to:

- regularly inspect and pump out your septic system
- protect the tank and the drainfield from damage
- follow septic system best practices every day and be aware of materials entering the system.

We experienced flooding with Hurricane Erin, but there are steps you can take to help protect your septic system before, during, and after flooding. By keeping your system properly maintained, your system is better protected from the stresses of a flood. If there is standing water on your drainfield, make sure to limit all non-essential water use. Once floodwaters have receded, contact a septic system professional to help assess damage.

For additional information regarding septic systems and maintenance, please visit the Clemson Cooperative Extension at this link:

[Clemson Info on Septic Systems](#)



Water Quality Report

The Town of Edisto Beach 2024 Water Quality Report has been posted to the Town's website and may be found at this link: [2024 Water Quality Report](#)

The water quality report is published annually as a way to keep Town residents informed about the water and services delivered over the past year. Always, our goal is to provide residents with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water, and the Town is committed to ensuring the quality of your water. The source of the Town's water is groundwater produced by the Floridian Aquifer by nine active wells on Edisto Beach.

The Town routinely monitors constituents in our drinking water according to federal and state laws. As water travels over land or underground, it may pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes and chemicals. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least some small amounts of constituents. It is important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Results of testing of Coliform Bacteria, Lead and Copper, and Regulated Contaminants are included in the 2024 Water Quality Report linked above.



Tom Hart Appointed as Municipal Judge

At the August 14, 2025, meeting, Town Council approved the appointment of Thomas H. Hart III as Municipal Judge, effective September 1.

Mr. Hart graduated from Furman University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, and he then graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law with the Juris Doctor Degree. He has been a member of the SC Bar Association since 1980 and is noted by the South Carolina Supreme Court as a member in good standing. Mr. Hart has 45 years' experience as an attorney practicing in both criminal and civil matters.

Prior to this appointment, Mr. Hart also served as Chairman of the Planning Commission for the Town. He has resigned from the Commission given his appointment as municipal judge.

Mr. Hart and his wife Karen reside on Edisto Beach.

Mayor Moore and Members of Town Council are pleased to welcome Mr. Hart to this important position and invite residents to Mr. Hart's ceremonial swearing-in as Municipal Judge on September 11 at 6:00 p.m. during the Regular Town Council Monthly Meeting.



Tom Hart

August 14 2025 Council Meeting

At the regular monthly Town Council meeting held on August 14, 2025, the following are a few of the items approved by Council:

- Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-10, Golf Cart Regulations, was approved and includes changes in SC law approved in May 2025.
- Memorandum of Agreement with SC Department of Juvenile Justice, Juvenile Detention Complex, for 2025-26.
- Purchase of two (2) Police Department vehicles from O.C. Welch Ford, Inc., for one (1) 2025 Ford Police Inceptor Utility Vehicle at a cost of \$46,960; and one (1) 2025 Ford Expedition 4X4 XL at a cost of \$51,240 to be paid from the Vehicle Replacement Fund.
- Appointment of David Ballard, John Drolet, and John David Griffith to the Water & Sewer Committee.
- Advertise the following committee vacancies: Construction Board of Appeals (2 vacancies) and Zoning Board of Appeals (3 vacancies); and the re-advertisement of the two (2) vacancies on the ATAX Board for the lodging sector.
- Special Event Application for the Animal Lovers of Edisto (ALOE), Padding for the Pups event, on May 30, 2026, at Bay Creek Park, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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



Report Management/Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System Integration for Police Department

The Edisto Beach Police Department is working to implement a new Report Management/Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Integration System, which will enhance officer safety, improve department efficiency, and reduce crime.

This project will ensure police officers are provided up-to-date information from dispatch which, in turn, will enhance officer safety and improve communication between agencies.

Real-time support is a focus with this system with information sharing and improved deployment of resources. This new system will also decrease dual data entry and less manual entry data by officers, which will enable police officers to have more time to be proactive in patrolling – and protecting – our community.

All police officers will be trained in this new system in mid-September, and the new system is expected to be up and running by the first week of October.

Colleton County Legislative Delegation

The Colleton County Legislative Delegation will meet on Monday, September 29, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Colleton County Memorial Library, 600 Hampton Street, Walterboro, SC. The delegation will hold a public comments session at this meeting.

As well, the delegation will make appointments to the Colleton County Board of Voter Registration and Elections (one appointment). Interested individuals may obtain an application to be considered for this vacancy by emailing Sue Keith at the Delegation Office, skeith@colletoncounty.org; or by stopping by at the Delegation Office at 403 E. Washington Street, Walterboro.