Town of Edisto Beach

Monthly Highlights

August 2025



IMPORTANT

Signup for CodeRed Weather Alerts by selecting the button below.



Subscribe to the Edisto Beach Website <u>HERE</u>.

Call 911 for Emergencies

We remind all residents and visitors to call 911 for any emergency they may be experiencing. Do not drive yourself or have someone drive you to the Town's fire or police departments, as those individuals may be out on a call, and precious time may be lost in doing so. Call 911 to have your emergency taken care of as soon as possible.

No Increases in Town Taxes or Utility Fees

The Edisto Beach Town Council has approved the Fiscal Year 2025–2026 budget with no increases to property taxes or utility fees, including garbage, water, and sewer services.

This marks another year of maintaining stable costs for residents—an outcome made possible by the Town's ongoing commitment to effectively pursuing grant funding and securing state and federal earmarks. These external funding sources have allowed the Town to invest in critical infrastructure and public services without placing additional financial burden on taxpayers.

Strategic financial planning and a proactive approach to outside funding have positioned Edisto Beach for long-term stability. By leveraging available resources and managing costs effectively, the Town continues to deliver essential services while keeping local taxes and fees the same as last year.



USACE Beach Nourishment Update

Town officials continue to work with the United States Army Corps of Engineers on the beach nourishment program. While the construction timeline for this project may change slightly, the Town continues to provide information and follow the necessary steps for this project.

The surveys for the beachfront properties have been completed and approved by the USACE. The USACE is finalizing the project design. Real estate items are causing a bit of a delay for this project, but the Town and the USACE are working to settle the real estate component of this project. Once that portion of the project is completed, easements will be shared with each individual beachfront property owner.

As this project continues, we will share additional information, including the projected start date and completion date for this nourishment.



ATAX & Water and Sewer Committees Vacancies

Town Council has approved the advertisement of the following vacancies on Town committees:

ATAX Board: Two (2) vacancieslodging sector

Water & Sewer: Three (3) vacancies

For those interested in applying, please complete the application found **HERE** and return via email, with a copy of your driver's license, to Municipal Clerk Donna Rizer at drizer@townofedistobeach.com.

Information regarding these committees may be found at <u>this link</u> on the Town's website.

Wastewater System Upgrades Update

The Wastewater Systems Upgrades, funded by a SCIIP grant in the amount of \$8,904,385 and a Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) grant of \$500,000, will undergo its next major project, which is the replacement of eleven (11) lift stations throughout the Town of Edisto Beach. As well, Town Council approved, as did the Rural Infrastructure Authority, an additional expenditure of \$205,247 to additional, standardized disconnect switches which will allow the Town's backup generator to connect to any of the liftstations. Due to equipment arrival delays, the project is expected to begin in November 2025.

The remaining portion of this SCIIP grant involves updates to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. A request for bids was released on July 17, and bids are due on August 20. This work will include improvements to the existing treatment lagoon including installation and removal of a provisional (temporary) treatment plant to provide treatment while the existing treatment plant is drained for construction; lagoon dredging, disposal of dried sludge and old liner and old baffles, and repair to the existing lagoon's concrete lip, installation of new HDPE liner, new chlorination system, improvement to the existing building, and other miscellaneous necessary improvements and all necessary appurtenances for complete installation and operation.



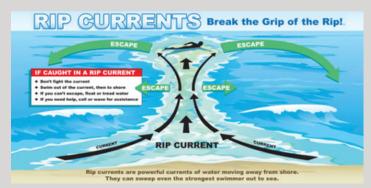
New Town Rip Current Signs

Informational rip current signs have been placed at all beach accesses and at various locations across Town.

The rip current signs contain a QR code whereby the user can use their mobile device to see the current ocean conditions on that particular day on the National Weather Service website.



The Town encourages all residents and visitors to make use of this important information prior to getting into the water. As well, please see the graphic below from CheckMyBeach regarding riptides and how to remain safe.



Reminders

- Check weather conditions <u>before</u> going into the ocean by checking local weather information and by using the QR code on the Edisto Beach rip current signs.
- Don't assume! Great weather for the beach does not always mean that it is safe to swim. Rip currents often form on calm, sunny days.

SCDES Swim Advisories

From time to time, the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) will issue swim advisories along our beach. SCDES routinely collects water samples at more than 120 locations along South Carolina's beaches to monitor bacteria levels.

These swimming advisories are <u>not</u> a beach closing, and the advisories do not affect the entire beach. It's safe to wade, collect shells, and fish within the swimming advisory area; however, recommends that SCDES entering the water in the area refrain from swallowing it, and people with open wounds or compromised immune systems avoid contact with the water. The graphic below is provided by SCDES beach monitoring webpage found HERE.



Patrick Brown Elected as ICC Region VIII Second Vice President

This past spring, Patrick Brown, the Town's Building Code Administrator, was elected to the International Code Council (ICC) Region VIII Board of Directors to represent South Carolina.

The ICC Region VIII consists of South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee and is dedicated to excellence in education and engagement, and promotes a safer environment for all by bringing together individuals engaged in the administration, enforcement, and implementation of all codes relates to the built environment.

Congratulations, Patrick, and thank you for your work on behalf of Edisto Beach!

July 10, 2025 Council Meeting

At the regular monthly Town Council meeting held on July 10, 2025, the following are a few of the items approved by Council:

- First Reading of Ordinance 2025-10, Golf Cart Regulations was approved due to changes in SC law approved in May 2025.
- Change Order #2 for J.S. Haren Company, SCIIP Grant A-23-C065, Adjustment in Equipment in the amount of \$205,247.14 for the lift stations project was approved. This work will involve retrofitting eleven lift stations in order to have uniform disconnect boxes and transfer switches so all lift stations can be operated by a 200-amp generator and meet current codes.
- Approval of Bid for RFP 2025-02, Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System, to Fortiline Waterworks in the amount of \$1,067,727, with an annual fee of \$8,998.
- Town Council approved the advertisement of three (3) vacancies on the Water & Sewer Committee, and two (2) vacancies on the ATAX Committee.
- Revisions to the Personnel Manual following a five-year cycle review was approved.
- Extension of the Lyons Contracting Garbage Container Rollout/Rollback Services.

Mayor Moore also presented the State of the Town report at this meeting. The report may be found <u>HERE</u>.

As a reminder, Council agendas and minutes are found on our website **HERE**.



Starfish Awards

Mayor Moore and Town Council members recognized the following individuals with Starfish Awards:

- Linda Perkins was recognized for her service as a member of the Municipal Election Commission from 2021-2025. The Mayor thanked Ms. Perkins for her important work in preparing for and conducting municipal elections. Thank you, Linda, for your commitment to the Commission and to the residents of Edisto Beach!
- Nominated by Councilman Bob Renner, Sgt. David McWatters and Beach Patrol officers Joe Stalvey and Noni Sallenger were recognized for their rescue of a fawn who was found struggling on the beach in May 2025. Mr. Renner noted the service, compassion, and collaboration in getting the fawn to a deer rescue operation center. Thank you to David, Joe, and Noni for your great work!



Mayor Moore and Linda Perkins



Councilman Renner with Sgt. McWatters and Beach Patrol Officers Noni Sallenger & Joe Stalvey