Town of Edisto Beach

# Monthly Highlights

October 2025



# **IMPORTANT**

Signup for CodeRed Weather Alerts by selecting the button below.



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

#### Vacancies/Town Committees

Please use the link below to apply for vacancies on the Planning Commission (one vacancy), Construction Board of Appeals (one vacancy), and Zoning Board of Appeals (one vacancy).

Committee Application

## **Town Drainage Study Update**

In recognition of the need for a comprehensive solution to drainage, Town Council has been laying the groundwork to address these challenges for some time. First, as part of this effort, Council directed Davis & Floyd Engineering to conduct a study of our lagoon drainage from Lybrand Street to Whaley Street. This has been completed and the town is now in the process of securing funding to try and have this work done before next fall. Since then, at the March 13<sup>th</sup> Regular Council meeting, Council voted to proceed with a town wide look at the overall next phase to improve drainage, once again employing Davis and Floyd to provide the engineering guidance for storm drainage mitigation. This Town-wide planning strategy will provide a systematic framework to identify and prioritize improvements, and implement cost-effective and long-term solutions.

At the same time, the Town has been actively leveraging its important relationships with state and federal representatives, state agency partners, our lobbyist, and other key stakeholders to position Edisto Beach to successfully secure the funding needed to implement these future improvements. These engineering studies and reports are essential to clearly demonstrate need and proposed solutions in support of the Town's grant applications and earmark requests. These outside funding sources are critical to moving these processes forward.

We are now awaiting the final deliverables from the Townwide planning strategy and Yacht Club Road drainage study, including detailed next steps and associated cost estimates. Once received, Town Council will schedule a public presentation for residents and other interested parties, with date and time to be announced.

Once again, the Town has already acted on the recommendations of the Interior Lagoon Study by applying for a Hazard Mitigation Grant through FEMA, submitting a federal earmark request through Senator Lindsey Graham's Office and a state earmark request through Senator Chip Campsen's and Representative James Teeple's offices. The Town has also identified possible additional funding to advance Phase 1 recommendations, if needed, which include critical infrastructure replacement and improvements. More details on planned drainage improvements can be found in the Interior Lagoon Study HERE.

#### **November 4, 2025 Election Details**

The Municipal General Election for the Town of Edisto Beach will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, for the purpose of electing two (2) Town Council Members to serve a term of four years.

The polling place for this November 4 election will be the Edisto Beach Town Hall, 2414 Murray Street, Edisto Beach. The polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain continuously open until they are closed at 7:00 p.m. on the evening of November 4, 2025.

For information regarding voter registration, early voting and absentee voting, please visit the Colleton County website **HERE.** 

Information regarding elections may also be found on the Town's website **HERE**. The sample ballot is available on the website and is posted on the Town Hall bulletin board.

As well, the new EOC/Town Hall construction will not interfere with Election Day parking, etc. The contractor will not have equipment on the site and surrounding area on November 4 to ensure vehicles and voters are able to maneuver easily through the area.



**November 4, 2025** 

#### **AMI System Project Update**

Work on the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project will begin soon. Fortiline Waterworks is beginning to mobilize equipment for this project. The project will include a system-wide conversion to the AMI System of the Town's residential and commercial water meters. The Town currently provides water service to approximately 2,500 residential customers. The current meters will be replaced with AMI meters.

The new AMI System will eliminate the need for manual meter readings for biannual billing and will improve the quality and quantity of meter readings and customer information available to the Town. This information will allow the Town to conduct billing more frequently and will enable us to detect water leaks quickly.

We will update residents as this project progresses.

## **Upcoming Town Events**

Please join us at the following scheduled Town of Edisto Beach events:

- Trick or Treat at the Creek: October 28, 5:30-7 p.m., Bay Creek Park (candy donations accepted at Town Hall & the Civic Center)
- Pre-Thanksgiving Wednesday Market: November 26, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Bay Creek Park
- Christmas Tree Lighting: November 30, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Bay Creek Park
- Holiday Mix & Mingle Market: December 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Bay Creek Park

Chamber of Commerce Upcoming Events:

- Fall Festival & Turtle Tide Art Auction: October 11, begins 11:00 a.m., Jungle Road
- Edisto Beach Road Race: November 23, begins 8:30 a.m.. Ocean Ridge Resort
- Edisto Beach Christmas Parade: December 14, 2:00 p.m., Palmetto Blvd.

#### **EOC/Town Hall Construction Update**

The EOC/Town Hall construction is progressing on schedule and on budget. A target completion date of March 2026 is still on schedule. During the next couple of months, Monteith Construction will complete the exterior structure, and work will then begin on the interior of the building.

As well, sprinkler systems are being installed in the Fire Department building, including the bays, office space, and bunk rooms. This needed upgrade was submitted as part of the new EOC/Town Hall project.

The new EOC/Town Hall project was approved as a bond referendum per the Colleton County Capital Projects Sales Tax in the amount of \$10 million.



Fire Dept. area undergoing sprinkler installation



Fire Dept. bunk room

## Jungle Shores Bike Path Update

The Jungle Shores Bike Path resurfacing project has been completed. This project involved approximately 4,352 linear feet of an existing five-foot bike path along Jungle Shores Drive from Whaley Street to Dawhoo Street.

The work completed included removing the existing bike path, addressing drainage and elevation issues, adding new compacted base materials as needed, grading and compacting, and repaving the bike path. Truluck Services was the contractor on this project.



Stretch of bike path prior to repaving



Repaved stretch of bike path

## September 11, 2025 Council Meeting

At the regular monthly Town Council meeting held on September 11, 2025, the following are a few of the items approved by Council:

- First Reading of Ordinance 2025-11, Amendment to Section 42-5, Fire Prevention and Protection, Recreational Fires, which addresses the conditions under which recreational fires may be permitted in Town limits.
- Recommendation from TIDE Committee to create a butterfly garden at Jungle Road Park, and the building of an osprey nest platform at Burley L. Lyons Park.
- Appointment to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Board (ATAX) as follows in the lodging sector: Emma Hart and Richard Howse.
- Appointment to the Construction Board of Appeals: John Drolet.
- Appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals: Gary Cantrell and Beverly Sandifer.
- Advertise one vacancy each on the following Town Committees: Planning Commission (1), Construction Board of Appeals (1), and Zoning Board of Appeals (1).

Also at this meeting, Town Council held a ceremonial oath of office for the new Municipal Judge Thomas H. Hart III.



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



#### **Starfish Awards**

Town Council presented the following individuals with Starfish Awards during the September monthly meeting:



Sgt. Greg Poole for excellent care and support during emergency responses to a resident.



Beach Patrol Officer Dan Hutto for his assistance to an individual suffering a heart attack.



Edisto Beach Volunteer Fire Dept. members for rehabilitating 53 fire hydrants throughout the Town.

## 5-Year Service Pin



Clerk of Court Amy Johnson received her five-year service pin from Town Administrator Mark Aakhus.

The Town of Edisto Beach invites you to the Cookin' on the Creek BBQ Festival

# **OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2025**

FREE ADMISSION
One Ticket (\$1 value) per BBQ Sample

Friday 6 PM - 10 PM

LIVE MUSIC & WING SAMPLES

PAT COOPER & NAOMI JEWEL MARCHANT Saturday 11 AM

MUSIC &
BOSTON BUTT
SAMPLES

1 PM JUDGING

PROCEEDS BENEFIT BAY CREEK PARK

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