



THE CURRENT

MARCH 31, 2025

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Week of
March 31, 2025

WELCOME to *THE CURRENT*, the weekly digital newsletter for the Town of Oak Island, NC.

The first day of the week is the last day of the month. As we say goodbye to March and roll into April there are several **important announcements** for the week ... ***and SUMMER SEASON ahead!***



In this week's edition, we'll review all of the important seasonal changes which takes place **starting on April 1**. Oh, it's no joke, as there's some serious business to cover. So put on your best formal-fancy swimsuit, because its time for a very fact-filled dip in this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

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MEETINGS & CLOSURES



Council & Board Meetings



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE will hold its regular meeting on **Thursday, April 3 at 8:30 AM**. **LOCATION CHANGE NOTICE:** For the April 3 meeting, the EAC will meet in the **Sea Turtle** room at the **Oak Island Recreation Center**, located at 3003 E. Oak Island Drive (meetings are typically held in the Ocean Education Center, and the change in location is for this month only).

PAR 3 ADVISORY COMMITTEE will hold its regular meeting on **Friday, April 4 at 1:00 PM** in the Par 3 Pro Shop at 4188 Vanessa Dr.

To view all future meeting schedules, visit the **Meetings Information** page at OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS.

Holiday Closures

There are **NO** closures or service modifications scheduled for the week ahead. The next Holiday Closure will be on **Friday, April 18, 2025** in observance of **Good Friday**. To view all Holiday Closures, visit: OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY.



Paid Parking Season Starts

Beginning on **Tuesday, April 1, 2025** the enforcement of **Paid Parking** will begin for the 2025 Season, which will run until **Tuesday, September 30, 2025**.

The Town of Oak Island currently provides more than **1,366 parking spaces** across **65 public Beach Access Locations**, more than any other island community in the Carolinas! The Paid Parking Program is administered by the contracted vendor, **Otto Connect** through their proprietary **SurfCAST** application.

As a reminder, enforcement will also include the **Resident Parking Permits**, which if not purchased already, can be obtained at any time through the **SurfCAST** app at www.surfcaster.us, online at surfcaster.ottoconnect.us/pay, or by calling **910-200-1497**.

For detailed program information, FAQ, and program history, or to review the materials needed when purchasing a Permit, visit the **Parking Information** page OakIslandNC.gov/PARKING or click the link below.



Summer Safety Measures Resume

On Tuesday, April 1, 2025 the **National Weather Service** in Wilmington will resume its **Surf Zone Forecast & Beach Forecasts** for the 2025 Season, which will continue through October 31, 2025. With the start of the NWS forecasting:

- **BEACH WARNING FLAGS** will resume being flown on all Town facility flagpoles, including the Fire Stations and Town Hall, as well as being mounted to ALL Fire Department vehicles. Flags will also be flown from community partners including the ***Oak Island Water Rescue Station*** at 4901 E Pelican Drive, and the ***Crossroads Gathering Place***, at the base of the GV Barbee bridge.
- **BEACH WARNING LIGHTS** which display the current flag condition will also be reactivated on their locations at Barbee Boulevard, the Oak Island Cabana, 3rd Place East, and The Point. *(Installed in June 2024, the Town of Oak Island became the **first community in the Carolinas** to utilize such a system.)*
- **RESCUE TUBES** will be returned to active service and reattached to the ***Rescue Tube Stations*** posted on the beach side of every Access Location. Signage at these Stations is also being assessed and repaired or replaced as needed.

As the Fire Department **noted two weeks** ago, ***emergencies don't rely on a calendar*** and **Beach Safety starts with YOU!** Before visiting the beach, or enjoying any in-water activity, it is important to check conditions and be aware of your surroundings. **Scan the QR codes on one of the NEW Beach Access Signs**, and take a few moments to learn, or refresh your memory on how to enjoy the water safely.

If you don't have **one of the NEW Beach Access Signs** nearby to scan the QR code on, that's okay! You can always visit the ***NEW Beach Information*** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/BEACH** or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

NEW Mobi-Mat Extensions

This past **Friday, March 28** the **Public Works Department** completed installation of **TWO NEW Mobi-Mat** extensions in the **Beach Access Locations** at Keziah St. and SE 46th St.



These new extensions will greatly improve the on-beach access over the dunes for those in wheelchairs or with limited mobility. Making a 90° turn once over the dune, they allow users to a greater space to enjoy the view that is outside the path of travel.



It is **important to note** that the **length and placement** of the Mobi-Mats are **NOT** determined by the Town, but are heavily regulated by the **Coastal Area Management Act** (CAMA). These new extensions were installed following approval of a **CAMA Permit** the Town originally filed in June of 2024.

The new extensions further enhance the **NINE dedicated Handicap Assist Locations** provided by the Town. To view the full list of locations, visit the Beach Access Locations page at **OakIslandNC.gov/ACCESS** or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

***OKInformation* Text Alert Notice**

By far, the **BEST** way to get current, accurate information from the Town of Oak Island is through our ***OKInformation*** system. For system users who are signed up to receive ***Emergency Text Alerts***, there's an important improvement happening this week!



NOTICE: On Wednesday, April 2, 2025 the number text alerts are sent from will CHANGE to 1-855-512-7547.

This change is being implemented by Granicus, the company through which the Town Website and OKInformation system are hosted, and is an effort to improve processing for their SMS sending infrastructure. **All current subscriber numbers will be automatically migrated to the new system, and no new signup actions are needed**; however, if you have the text alerts saved as a contact on your phone, you may want to update the contact to this new number.

For any questions or concerns, you can always contact the **Communications Office** through the Department Contact form at **OakIslandNc.gov/CONTACT** or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

Manager's Message: PTC 8 Recovery

On **September 16, 2024**, our Town along with most of the Cape Fear Region was heavily impacted by the devastating effects of **Potential Tropical Cyclone #8** (PTC8). As a result, Town infrastructure was heavily damaged in several locations. with several recreation areas being ***closed*** until assessments and repairs could be made.

Since the impacts of PTC 8, the most common question received has been ***when repairs would begin*** on these cherished features. Over the past several months, Town staff has worked tirelessly to identify and allocate the **half a million dollars** in funding needed to support, bid, and oversee the more than a **dozen** infrastructure projects nature created in just one day.

As of the start of this month the **bids for all projects had successfully been awarded**, and as of this past week **repairs are NOW UNDERWAY!**



To help provide transparency and keep you informed, we recently launched the **Town Projects** page on our website. Each month, this page is updated to provide the latest status report for all major construction projects initiated by the Town ... with a special tab dedicated just to ***PTC 8 Recovery Projects***.

If you have questions about the status of a project, or see possible misinformation on local news or social media outlets, please remember to **use this page as a first source** of information! To view the latest project updates just visit **OakIslandNC.gov/PROJECTS** or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

SAFETY BRIEF



Burn Ban Reminder

REMINDER: Since **Friday, March 21, 2025** a **Burn Ban** has been in effect for all areas within the Town limits, due to very high fire danger conditions currently being experienced throughout the entire state. This action coincides with Burn Bans issued by **Brunswick County** and the **State of North Carolina**.

Remember, if at any point an outdoor fire is observed, please CALL 9-1-1 immediately.

For more information on this Burn Ban and what it prohibits and allows, click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Ocean Rescue Recruitment

Last Wednesday, Chief Lee Price spoke with local media (pictured below) on the upcoming merger of the Town's equally successful ***Ocean Rescue*** and ***Beach Services*** units.



By combining these units, it will allow crews to offer expanded service to beachgoers, while also reducing the total number of vehicles driving on the beach at the same time. ***However***, one key element still needed to make this season successful is ***YOU!***



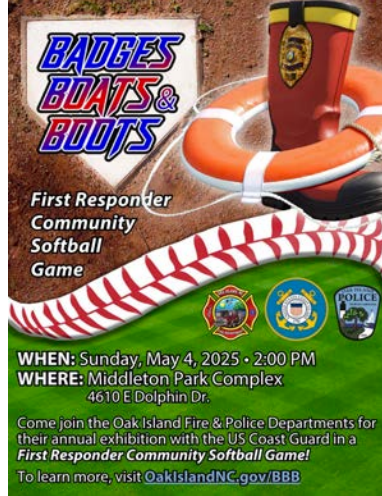
While Beach Services applications are now closed, we still have a few remaining positions to fill for the Ocean Rescue Unit. The **ORU** is a challenging, yet highly rewarding unit. If you think you might be ready to ***ANSWER THE CALL***, then ***HURRY*** as the Training Academy starts on **April 14**.

Training and uniforms, along with a fun and rewarding experience are all provided! Apply NOW at **OakIslandNC.gov/JOBS** or click the link below..

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

Badges, Boats, & Boots Returns

Come join the **Oak Island Police Department** as we team up with the **Oak Island Fire Department** for an exhibition with the **U.S. Coast Guard Station Oak Island** in our **Third Annual *Badges Boats, & Boots*** First Responder Softball Game! This year's game will be held on **Sunday, May 4, 2025** at **2:00 PM** on the ballfield in the **Middleton Park Complex**.



First started in 2023 as a friendly competition, the "**3-B**" has grown into an intense, albeit friendly rivalry between the dedicated men and women who serve our area in times of emergency. Come out to cheer on your favorite first responders, enjoy some refreshments and community entertainment, all while support a good cause for local organizations in need.

For more information on the **3-B** or to mark in your own calendar, visit the **Special Events** page at OakIslandNC.gov/BBB and what it prohibits and allows, click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

For questions related to any of the content in the **Safety Brief**, or for more information on the services provided by the **Police Department** or **Fire Department**, just visit the **Public Safety** page at OakIslandNC.gov/SAFETY or click on the link below.



**EVENTS &
ACTIVITIES**



Class & Event Cancellations



The ***Total Body Blast with Mary Beth*** at **8:00 AM** and the ***SilverSneakers with Maggie*** at **9:00 AM** fitness classes scheduled for **Thursday, April 3** have been **CANCELED**:

Additionally, the ***3v3 Basketball Tournament*** scheduled for **Saturday, April 5** has been **CANCELED**.

For more information on these cancellations, please contact the Recreation Department at **910-278-5518** or through the **Department Contact Form**. To view alternative Fitness Class options, visit **OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS** or click the logo below.



THIS WEEK:

In Recreation

Provided below is a listing of the recreation activities for the week ahead! For questions or additional information, contact the **Recreation Department** at **910-278-5518**.

Tuesday, April 1

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 8:30 AM SilverSneakers with Susan
 - 9:30 AM Senior Yoga with Mert
 - 11:30 AM Qigong
- **Recreation Center**
 - 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM Line Dancing Club

Wednesday, April 2

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 7:30 AM Mature Aerobics with Debbie
 - 9:00 AM SilverSneakers with Mary Beth
 - 4:30 PM Yoga for Balance with Tammy
- **Middleton Park**
 - 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Strider walking Club

Thursday, April 3

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 10:15 AM Chair Yoga with Tammy

- 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM Barre



Friday, April 4

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**

- 7:30 AM Mature Aerobics with Debbie
- 9:00 AM SilverSneakers with Susan
- 10:30 AM Sculpt and Flow Yoga with Tammy or MB

- **Recreation Center**

- 8:00 AM: Table Tennis

Saturday, April 5

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**

- 10:00 AM Community Yoga with rotating instructors

Monday, April 7

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**

- Mature Aerobics with Debbie 7:30 AM
- SilverSneakers Fitness with Maggie 9:00 AM
- Senior Yoga with Mert 11:15 AM

REMINDER: A full listing of all fitness classes and recreation programs can be found at OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS.

Click on the event flyers below to download, print, and share!



Fitness Calendar



Easter Egg Hunt



Doggie EGG-stravaganza



Coffee With A Cop

THANK YOU

Thank you for reading this edition of ***THE CURRENT***, and choosing to stay informed on the News & Events happening in Oak Island, NC.



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PAST EDITION ARCHIVE

DID YOU KNOW? *The CURRENT*, hasn't always been a weekly publication. Originally produced as an award-winning digital monthly newsletter, *The CURRENT* published 35 editions, spanning a period of three years from from December 2020 to 2023. As a monthly publication, *The CURRENT* provided longer form, "magazine style" reading, along with added commentary, and content contributed from community partners.

Past editions of both the weekly and monthly formats are available to view anytime, by clicking the tabs below.

MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2023)	+
MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2022)	+
MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2021)	+
MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2020)	+