



THE CURRENT

JUNE 16, 2025


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Week of
June 16, 2025

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

"Scattered, sporadic, Summer showers." We'd ask you to say that five times fast, but by the time you got it, the rain would probably be gone, and we'd all be out the door on the way the to surf! Then again, that's one of the quaint little quirks  Summer on the coast; as seen this week's cover photo, you can literally be standing in the sunshine on a Pier, while those a few yards away are under apocalyptic-looking clouds.

It's okay though, with indoor options like the **Nature Center** or **Ocean Ed** building (both of which now open for the season), even the gloomiest days can be spent having fun and learning about the world around you. While the kids may be learning about the beach, this week has plenty of Town business and events to cover for the adults as well. So put on your swimming glasses, and get ready for an informative read through this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **Planning Board**

NEWS & NOTICES

- **Town Council Actions Review**
- **Budget & Fee Schedule Adopted**
- **Fire Tax Transition Approved**
- **Dune Infiltration Project Started**
- ***Manager's Message: Code Enforcement & Communication***

SAFETY BRIEF

- **Firefighters Wanted**
- **Beach Day Fireworks Traffic**

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- **SilverSneakers Canceled**
- **This Week in Recreation**
- **Event Flyers**

MEETINGS & CLOSURES



Council & Board Meetings



PLANNING BOARD will hold its regular meeting on **Thursday, June 19** at **9:00 AM** in the Council Chambers, located on the second floor of Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Drive.

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

Holiday Closures

Administrative Offices will be **CLOSED** on **Friday, July 4, 2025** in observance of ***Independence Day***.

To view all Holiday Closures, visit: OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY.

NEWS & NOTICES



Town Council Actions Review

This past **Tuesday, June 10** the Oak Island Town Council held its regular meeting in the Council Chambers, located on the second floor of Town Hall.


CLICK HERE to view the Actions Report



To view the video from this or any previous meeting, as well as download the agenda information provided, simply visit the ***Meetings Information*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS or click the link below

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Budget & Fee Schedule Adopted

During the **June 10 meeting** this past Tuesday, the Town Council voted unanimously to adopt the **FY 2025 - 2026 Budget**, as well as approving the **FY 2025-2026 Budget Ordinance**, and Adopting the **FY 2025-2026 Fee Schedule**. 

As previously noted, the coming fiscal year provides a ***balanced budget***, with notable highlights including:

- Increases in Stormwater from \$7 to \$10 per month and minor increases in the Solid Waste rates to pass through the Town's direct costs (does not affect all residents)
- Of the \$0.20 tax rate, \$0.10 is designated for the Town's General Fund, with \$0.03 going towards the Beach Nourishment Fund ("Fund 47") and \$0.07 going towards the newly implemented Fire Tax (*transitioned from a Fire Fee* -- see below for more details)
- The Fund Balance continues to remain strong at 92% for the General Fund. The Town's General Fund Balance is in compliance with NCGS 159-8 and well over the Town's internal policy to maintain a minimum total fund balance of 40%.

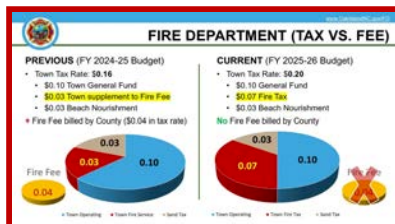
To view the entire FY 2025-2026 Budget and Fee Schedule visit the ***Finance Department*** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/FINANCE**, or click the link below.



Fire Tax Transition Approved

Just prior to approving the new Budget during the **June 10 meeting**, the Town Council also voted to approve the transition from a ***Fire Fee*** to a ***Fire Tax***. The new FY 2025-2026 Budget will now support the Oak Island Fire Department with ad valorem taxes instead of a combination Town taxes and fire fees paid as part of Brunswick County Tax Bills.

Previously, the Fire Fee was being charged at the maximum allowed, leaving no room for additional revenue to meet the growing demands of fire response in Oak Island. By transitioning to a Fire Tax, this allows for revenue based on the total value of a property, unlike the flat rate of a Fire Fee which is based on square footage or acreage. As noted in the **graphic below**, the Town's tax rate has been adjusted to equal out the transition from a County-billed Fee, to a Town-billed tax.



"What differences will I see?" Most notably, the ***Fire Fee*** will ***no longer*** be seen on the Brunswick County Tax Bills. Instead, the new ***Fire Tax will be*** charged on the Town of Oak Island Tax Bills. Because funding is now based on taxable property value instead of a set fee, the amount paid may be different, with some paying more, and some staying the same or even less. While the ***Town Tax Bill*** may seem higher overall, it's important to remember that increases have been offset by the Fire Fee no longer being applied on the ***County Tax Bill***.



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Dune Infiltration Project Started

Some welcome news for residents and visitors along Ocean Drive, as last **Monday, June 9** work began on the new **Dune Infiltration Stormwater System** near the Beach Access Location on Crowell Street.

This project is the continuation of a successful system previously installed in 2023 / 2024 at nearby Barbee Blvd. A “dune infiltration” style drainage system decreases occurrences of standing water following significant rain events, by redirecting stormwater into drains installed beneath the sand dunes. Before being installed in Oak Island, a similar to a system was already proven successful in neighboring Caswell Beach. As an added bonus, the installation will increase the width of the area’s secondary dunes, providing additional protection to infrastructure.

The project is anticipated to be completed within 120 calendar days by early October, at a cost of \$670,000. For more information or to follow updates on the construction, visit the ***Town Projects*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/PROJECTS or click the link below.

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Manager's Message: Code Enforcement & Beach Nourishment

In her report during the **June 10 Town Council Meeting**, Town Manager Kathryn Adams provided brief reviews of the new Budget and Fire Tax (mentioned above), as well as updates on several key projects currently underway, including:

- **CODE ENFORCEMENT:** The **Alliance Code Enforcement Review** project is nearing completion, with **92%** of all 1,168 cases now addressed. Of those, 1,070 (84%) have been fully cleared or closed. All of the High and Medium level cases have been cleared, with just 165 cases still being worked at this time.
- **COMMUNICATION:** In an encouraging note, the Town's ***OKInformation*** system for email and emergency text alerts, now has **10,143 subscribers!** Additionally, the Town's mobile app, ***OKI Connection***, now has **894**

downloads, just 106 away from the goal of 1,000 downloads by the end of the summer.



To view the full Manager's Report from the most recent Town Council meeting, just visit the **Meetings Information** page at OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS, or click the link below.

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SAFETY BRIEF



Firefighters Wanted

The **Fire Department** is **NOW HIRING!** We're looking for full-time firefighters to join our family in protecting lives and property within the Town of Oak Island


Oak Island Fire Department
IS NOW HIRING!
Learn more at: OakIslandNC.gov/ED



Full Time Starting Range:
\$47,215 - \$57,967
• Overtime & Holidays
Part Time: \$17.50 - \$19.50

- Local Government Retirement
- New Apparatus
- New Tower on Order
- Work at the Beach
- Great Work Environment
- Progressive / Aggressive Leadership

Working as part of the Oak Island Fire Department provides a unique and extraordinary opportunity to serve in a beautiful coastal tourism destination, but with a great small town community feel as well. Working within the larger scope of Oak Island's **Public Safety** efforts, firefighters are a crucial part of providing not just fire protection, but multiple disciplines of disaster prevention and emergency response.

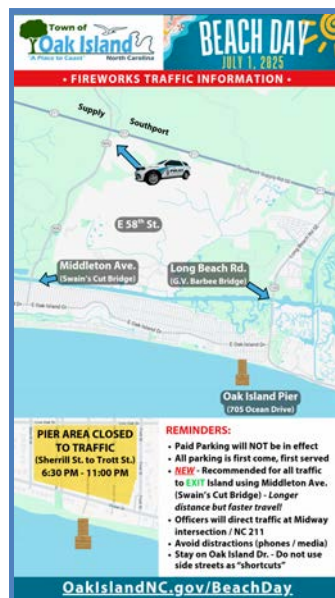
Available positions offer Local Government Retirement, with a great work environment where leadership focuses on aggressive training and progressive learning. With new apparatus recently in service and new towers on order, this is a chance to  in your fire service career, by working in a department that invests back into you!

To learn more, apply, or share with those who may be interested, visit the ***Job Openings*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/JOBS or click the link below



Beach Day Fireworks Traffic

Last week, the **Police Department** announced new traffic guidelines for this year's spectacular **fireworks display**, capping off the celebrations for **BEACH DAY**. With now just ***two weeks*** remaining until Beach Day, we are asking your help to get the word out early and often!



As seen in the graphic above, once the Fireworks are over, officers will be asking **ALL** traffic exiting the Island to use **N Middleton Ave.** and the **Swain's Cut Bridge**. Even if you are headed back to neighboring Southport, this route avoids bottlenecks caused by the NC 211 / 133 interchange construction and detour. Additionally, the multiple lanes and short-span bridge on this route will help ensure rapid travel for everyone, regardless of your destination. **Remember: *slightly longer distance = significantly less time sitting in traffic!***

Officers will be stationed at several points along E Oak Island Dr to help with vehicle and pedestrian traffic alike, as well as the "Midway" intersection with NC 211, to provide fast travel those heading ***East towards Southport, West to Supply, or North to Bolivia.***

To share this graphic and information, just click on the **Fireworks & Traffic Information** tab on the Beach Day page at OakIslandNC.gov/BeachDay or click the link below.



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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



SilverSneakers Canceled

PLEASE NOTE, the **SilverSneakers with Maggie** classes scheduled for **Thursday June 19** and **Monday, June 23** at **9:00 AM** ahead have been **CANCELED**.

For more information on these cancelations, 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 link 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, June 17

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 8:30 AM: SilverSneakers with Susan
 - 9:30 AM: Senior Yoga with Mert
 - 11:30 AM: Qigong
 - 6:00 PM: Barre with Suzanne
- **Recreation Center**
 - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Water Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**
 - 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Tennis Academy (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Cape Fear Yacht Club**
 - 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sailing Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Ocean Education Center**
 - 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Open for the Season
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**
 - 3:00 PM – 5:30 PM Pickleball Academy (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Recreation Center**
 - 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM: Line Dancing Club

Wednesday, June 18

- **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
- **Cabana (Corner of SE 46th St and E. Beach Drive)**
 - 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Story Time by the Sea (Pre-Registration Required)



- **Recreation Center**
 - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Water Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**
 - 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Tennis Academy (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Cape Fear Yacht Club**
 - 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sailing Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Ocean Education Center**
 - 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Open for the Season
- **Nature Center**
 - 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Open for the Season
- **Recreation Center**
 - 1:00 PM June Craft Class (pre-registration required)
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**
 - 3:00 PM – 5:30 PM Pickleball Academy (Pre-Registration Required)

Thursday, June 19

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 8:00 AM: Total Body Blast with Mary Beth
 - 9:00 AM: Silver Sneakers with Maggie
 - 10:15 AM: Chair Yoga with Tammy
 - 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM: Barre with Suzanne
- **Recreation Center**
 - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Water Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**
 - 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Tennis Academy (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Cape Fear Yacht Club**
 - 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sailing Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**
 - 3:00 PM – 5:30 PM Pickleball Academy (Pre-Registration Required)

Friday, June 20

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 7:30 AM: Mature Aerobics with Debbie
 - 9:00 AM: Silver Sneakers with Susan
 - 10:30 AM: Sculpt and Flow Yoga with Tammy or MB
- **Oak Island Peir**
 - 8:00 AM: Pier Yoga with rotating instructors (Registration Required)
- **Recreation Center**
 - 8:00 AM: Table Tennis
- **Recreation Center**
 - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Water Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**



- 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Tennis Academy (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Cape Fear Yacht Club**
 - 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sailing Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Nature Center**
 - 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Open for the Season
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**
 - 3:00 PM – 5:30 PM Pickleball Academy (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Middleton Park Complex**
 - 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Summer Concert Series with Too Much Sylvia
- **Recreation Center**
 - 6:00 PM Crabbing to Cuisine with Steve (Pre-Registration Required)

Saturday, June 21

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**
 - 10:00 AM: Community Yoga with rotating instructors

Monday, June 23

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**
 - 7:30 AM: Mature Aerobics with Debbie
 - 9:00 AM: SilverSneakers Fitness with Maggie
 - 11:15 AM: Senior Yoga with Mert
- **Oak Island Pier**
 - 8:00 AM: Pier Yoga with rotating instructors (Registration Required)
- **Middleton Park Complex**
 - 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Farmers & Artisan's Market
- **Recreation Center**
 - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Water Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Cape Fear Yacht Club**
 - 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sailing Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**
 - 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Tennis Academy (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Ocean Education Center**
 - 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Open for the Season
- **Middleton Park Racquet Courts**
 - 3:00 PM – 5:30 PM Pickleball Academy (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Recreation Center**
 - 4:15 PM – 5:00 PM Dance Lessons with Casey

REMINDER: A full listing of all fitness classes and recreation programs can be found at [**OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS**](https://OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS).

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



Fitness Calendar



Chop With A Cop



Summer Concert Series



Beach Day 2025

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)

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MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2022)

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MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2021)

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MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2020)

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