



# THE CURRENT

**JULY 14, 2025**

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**Week of**  
**July 14, 2025**

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

It's the middle of July, in the middle of the year, in the middle of an oppressive Summer heatwave ... **but oh, do you remember?** This week's cover photo of the Barbee Bridge all covered in white reminds us of the **January 22 Snow** . where at some point shortly after the final flakes fell, we started hearing phrases like "*this is beautiful to look at, but I'm ready for Summer!*" or even "*this is the kind of weather I moved AWAY from!*"

The point being, the **174 days** since that photo was taken have gone by quicker than you think! While the heat of Summer can make it feel like time has slowed to a crawl, we can assure you it hasn't. So enjoy these moments while they last, because at some point sooner than later, you might be looking out of an ice-covered window thinking "I wish it were Summer already!"

Between activities, events, and Town notices, there's a lot to keep things moving in Oak Island. So hold off on grabbing the winter coast just yet, and let's get ready for a sweltering swim through this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

## MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **Stakeholders Meeting**
- **Planning Board**

## NEWS & NOTICES

- **Town Council Actions Review**
- **Adopt-A-Tree Program**
- **Bicycle Plan Open House**
- **New Events & Facility Rental Policy**
- ***Manager's Message: Updates & Progress Reports***

## SAFETY BRIEF

- ***NEW* Fire ISO Rating**
- **Goodbye to Big Holes**

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- **Class Cancellations**
- **This Week in Recreation**
- **Event Flyers**

# MEETINGS & CLOSURES



## Council & Board Meetings

**Development Services Stakeholders Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, July 15** starting at **2:00 PM** in the Council Chambers, located on the second floor of Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Dr.

**PLANNING BOARD** will hold its regular meeting on **Thursday, July 17** at **9:00 AM** in the Council Chambers.

To view all future meeting schedules, visit the *Meetings Information* page at [OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS](https://OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS).

## Holiday Closures

Administrative Offices and Town Facilities will be **CLOSED** on **Monday, September 1, 2025** in observance of **Labor Day**.

To view all Holiday Closures, visit: [OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY](https://OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY).

## "Collection Notice"

As a reminder for the month of July, due to several factors, including increased traffic, collection volume, and outside temperatures, contracted service provider **GFL Environmental** has noted that Garbage & Recycling Collection services **may take longer than usual**.

To view the Collection Zones & Schedules, just visit the **Public Works** page at [OakIslandNC.gov/PW](https://OakIslandNC.gov/PW).

# NEWS & NOTICES



## Town Council Actions Review

On **Tuesday, July 8**, the Oak Island Town Council held its regular meeting in the Council Chambers.

[CLICK HERE to view Council Actions](#)



To watch this meeting, or view the video and Agenda Packet materials for any previous meeting, visit the **Meetings Information** page at [OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS) or click the link below

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## Adopt-A-Tree Program

During the Town Council meeting last week, Stormwater Administrator and Tree Canopy Manager, Brice Taylor officially announced the launch of the Town's new **Adopt-A-Tree** program.



This new program helps to advance the goals of **increasing the tree canopy** and **improving the survivability** of newly planted live oaks in the Right Of Way (ROW). Participants can "adopt" a recently planted live oak tree, either through a one-time donation as a **TREE PROVIDER** or as a **TREE MANAGER**, agreeing to a 24-month commitment to water the adopted

tree.



In addition to helping the Town through the many benefits provided by live oak trees, participants will also have their names and names listed in the ***Tree Adoption Registry***, with background information included in an ***Online Story Map***. Tree names and information will also be included in ***Physical Signage*** displayed in Town Hall ... oh, and don't forget the special ***Program Member Decal*** and ***Tree Manager T-Shirt*** included to help further promote the program!

Individuals, local businesses, or non-profit organizations interested in adopting a tree directly or on behalf of someone else, can visit **[OakIslandNC.gov/TREES](https://OakIslandNC.gov/TREES)** or click the link below.



## Bicycle Plan Open House

**REMINDER** we are now just **two weeks** away from the ***Bicycle Plan Public Open House***, scheduled for **Wednesday, July 30** from **5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**.



Held in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Town Hall, this open house will help gather community input on proposed projects for the **Oak Island Bicycle Plan**, which works to identify priority bicycle infrastructure projects to improve bicycle safety, access, and connectivity across the Town.

The event will also provide an opportunity to review input from the recently completed **Bicycle Plan Public Survey**, which ran throughout the entire month of June.

To learn more and help share information on the Bicycle Plan, visit **[OakIslandNC.gov/BikePlan](https://OakIslandNC.gov/BikePlan)** or click the link below.



## ***NEW Facility Rental Policy***

***Did you know?*** The Town of Oak Island offers several public spaces which are available to host special events, as well as public facilities which can be rented, including picnic shelters, sports fields, playgrounds, or even buildings and educational rooms.

Recently, the Town updated the **Events Policy & Application** through which events can be hosted, and facilities can be rented. The Policy distinguishes between Special Events, Town Events, and Programs & Activities, classifying them based on factors such as expected crowd size and impact on Town resources.

In addition to updating this policy, the Town has also added a new **Policy for Non-Profit Agencies**. Oak Island recognizes the important role that non-profit organizations play in strengthening the community, enhancing the quality of life for residents, and providing vital services and programs. The new policy offers organizations a discounted rate for facility rentals, as noted in the **FY 2025-2026 Fee Schedule**,

To learn more or download a **Rental Application**, visit the ***Event Permits & Facility Rentals*** by clicking the link below.



## ***Manager's Message: Updates & Progress Reports***

During the **Manager's Report** at the July 8 Town Council meeting, Town Manager Kathryn Adams gave important updates on several key projects, including:

- **CODE ENFORCEMENT:** The **Alliance Code Enforcement Review** project is now **100% complete**.
- **ISO RATING:** The Town of Oak Island's **ISO Fire Rating** has been upgraded to an **ISO 2 Rating** Town-wide (full details provided in the ***Safety Brief*** section below).
- **TOWN WEBSITE:** The Communications Office has started work on a new ***Town Website***, which will provide enhanced compatibility for mobile devices, and a new Contact Form which features greater response options and user tracking. An aggressive build timeline anticipates the new Website to be ready for launch in early 2026.

- **FISCAL REPORT:** Finance Director Helen Brank provided an excellent review of the End-Of-Year Finance Report. The report highlighted that **all funds were balanced**. The Town's finances are in great shape and we even improved our credit score and saved approximately \$150,000 per year by refinancing debt.



To view the entire Manager's Report, visit the **Meetings Information** page at [OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS) or click the link below

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# SAFETY BRIEF



## **NEW Fire ISO Rating**

At the end of June, the Oak Island Fire Department (and Town as a whole) received some exciting news, the **Office of the State Fire Marshall (OSFM)** notified the Department that our **ISO Fire Protection Classification** had been **UPGRADED to a ISO Rating 2**, earning a score of **88.0**.



Typically performed every 5 years, this rating comes after a months-long process of intense scrutiny and grading from OSFM, which reviewed several factors, including:

- **Emergency Communications**
- **Fire Department Operations and Calls**
- **Training**
- **Water Supply**

- **Community Risk Reduction**



Nationally, there are **37,562** RATED fire departments, with **1,748** RATED departments in North Carolina. Of those, there are only 2,109 nationally and 139 statewide departments with a 2 ISO Rating.

Most notably, this upgraded rating is Town-wide, unlike the **previous** "split rating" of **3/10**, meaning that homes and businesses outside of 5 miles of a Fire Station, did not receive a rating. Now **ALL areas within the incorporated Town limits share the same rating.**

This tremendous improvement to the ISO Rating would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of the Oak Island Fire Department. Working each day to set a level of service to help residents and visitors, this score serves as a welcomed validation of that effort and commitment.

To learn more about the Fire Department and the many services they provide, visit [OakIslandNC.gov/FD](https://OakIslandNC.gov/FD) or click the link below



## Say "Goodbye to Big Holes"

*As a reminder*, in response to the recent BSU response numbers and safety concerns, during the July 8 Town Council meeting an update to Ordinance 14-142 was approved, which will now limit the **depth and tools used to dig holes** on the public beach areas. **Ordinance updates include:**

- **Holes cannot be deeper than 12"**
- **Holes can only be dug using toy shovels intended for use by children**
- **Holes must be attended at ALL times, and completely filled in by 6:00 PM**



Violation of this ordinance can now result in a \$50 FINE, issued by the Beach Safety Unit or the Oak Island Police Department.



To date, the support for this ordinance change has been largely positive, but help is needed in getting the word out! The Town is inviting everyone to help say "***Goodbye to Deep Holes***" by sharing graphic above, or the full information found at [OakIslandNC.gov/HOLES](http://OakIslandNC.gov/HOLES) or by clicking the link below.



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](http://OakIslandNC.gov/SAFETY) or click on the link below.



## Class Cancellations Notice

The following **Fitness Classes** at the Oak Island Recreation Center have been **CANCELED**:

- ***SilverSneakers with Maggie*** on **Thursday, July 17**
- ***Mature Aerobics with Debbie*** on **Friday, July 18, Wednesday July 23, and Friday July 25**

For more information on this cancellation, please contact the **Oak Island Recreation Department** at **910-278-5518** or through the **Department Contact Form**.

To view alternative fitness class options, visit [OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS](http://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, July 15

- **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
- **Par 3 Golf Course**
  - 8:30 AM Golf Camp (pre-registration Required)
- **Recreation Center**
  - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Sports Camp (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
- **Recreation Center**
  - 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM: Line Dancing Club

#### Wednesday, July 16

- **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
- **Par 3 Golf Course**
  - 8:30 AM Golf Camp (pre-registration Required)
- **Recreation Center**
  - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Sports Camp (Pre-Registration Required)



- **Cape Fear Yacht Club**
  - 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sailing Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Cabana (Corner of SE 46<sup>th</sup> St and E. Beach Drive)**
  - 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Story Time by the Sea (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

## Thursday, July 17

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
  - 8:00 AM: Total Body Blast with Mary Beth
  - 10:15 AM: Chair Yoga with Tammy
  - 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM: Barre with Suzanne
- **Par 3 Golf Course**
  - 8:30 AM Golf Camp (pre-registration Required)
- **Recreation Center**
  - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Sports Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Cape Fear Yacht Club**
  - 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sailing Camp (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Davis Canal**
  - 10:00 AM – Kayak Trip down the Davis (Pre-Registration Required)

## Friday, July 18

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
  - 9:00 AM: SilverSneakers 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
- **Par 3 Golf Course**
  - 8:30 AM Golf Camp (pre-registration Required)
- **Recreation Center**
  - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Sports Camp (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
- **Recreation Center**
  - 6:00 PM Crabbing to Cuisine Class (Pre-Registration Required)
- **Middleton Park Complex**



## Saturday, July 19

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**
  - 10:00 AM: Community Yoga with rotating instructors
- **Middleton Park Complex**
  - 6:30 PM Splashpad After Hours (Per-Registration Required)

## Monday, July 21

- **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
- **Par 3 Golf Course**
  - 8:30 AM Golf Camp (pre-registration Required)
- **Recreation Center**
  - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Science Camp (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
- **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**



**Splashpad After Hours**



Dutchman Dinghy Dash



Summer Concert Series



# THANK YOU

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**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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