



THE CURRENT

JULY 21, 2025

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Week of
July 21, 2025

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

It's the final full week of July and the ***HEAT IS ON***, as seen in this week's cover photo, showcasing a "WHITE HOT" (white = hot) infrared image from Veterans Park. While the **National Weather Service** continues to issue **Extreme Heat Warnings & Advisories**, remember the **Heat Safety Tips** from the Oak Island Fire Department, *and don't waste your energy digging deep holes* on the beach, as we all try to stay cool in the coming days.



In fact, it's probably best to just find a nice shady spot and trade the sunshine for some light reading. So layer up the sunscreen and be sure to hydrate, as we take a mentally refreshing dip in this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **Business Advisory Board**
- **Ramp Repair Update**

NEWS & NOTICES

- **Town Council: ROW Updates**
- **Land Use Plan: Final Call for Comments**
- **Christmas (Parade) In July**
- **Bicycle Plan: Open House Reminder**
- ***Staff Spotlight: Justice Herman***

SAFETY BRIEF

- **Family Safety Strategies**
- **Dutchman Dinghy Dash**

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

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

MEETINGS & CLOSURES



Council & Board Meetings



BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD will meet on **Tuesday, July 22** at **9:00 AM** in the Police Department Training Room, located on the second floor of the Police Department in 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 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.

"Ramp Repair"

As of **Monday, July 21** the public **Boat Ramp** at **NE 55th St** remains **CLOSED**. Quotes for damage repairs have been received, and Town staff are working with contractors to establish a **timeline for possible repair**. To **VIEW** and **SHARE** further updates, visit OakIslandNC.gov/RAMP.



Town Council: New ROW Updates

This past **Friday, July 18, 2025** at **9:00 AM** the Town Council held a **Special Meeting** in Council Chambers, for the purpose of considering amendments to **Town Ordinance Section 26-1** regarding Obstructions in the Rights-of-Way.

In an unanimous vote, Council voted that **existing ground-level improvements** (gravel, mulch, etc.) installed **prior to July 18, 2025** can remain and must be maintained by the property owner. The Town is not responsible for damage / replacement during infrastructure improvements or maintenance.

Additionally, new gravel and ground-level landscaping can be installed, provided it has a **permit from the Town** (no permit fees), and:

- Is **Permeable**
- Meets Town or NCDOT **Street Specifications**
- Meets existing **Contour of the Shoulder**

- Credits for **Tree Planting Requirements** will be given for trees in front of the setback area of the lot



Additionally, any **obstructions** above ground level must be removed within **SIX months** (from July 18, 2025).

To view these latest Ordinance Updates, visit OakIslandNC.gov/LAW or click the link below.



Land Use Plan: Final Call For Comments

REMINDER: The **Public Comment Period** for the **DRAFT Land Use Plan** will **CLOSE** at **5:00 PM** this coming **Friday, July 25, 2025**. This DRAFT Plan is not final until voted on by the Town Council, and public input is needed.



Officially launched in September 2024, the 2045 Charting The Course project is the Town's effort to update its existing CAMA Comprehensive Land Use Plan (often referred to as a “Comp Plan”). This update will examine progress made and new initiatives that should be considered for the future.

To provide your input, and share with others so they can provide theirs, simply visit the **Charting the Course** page at OakIslandNC.gov/PLAN2045 or click the link below.



Christmas In July: Parade Applications Available

Although there may be heat advisories this week, we're already looking ahead to making warmer memories in cooler temperatures, as **Parade Entry Applications** for the 2025 **Christmas By The Sea Parade** are **now being accepted!**



The Parade itself will be held on **Saturday, December 6** beginning at **2:00 PM**. As always, this "**RAIN or SHINE**" event will run right through the heart of Town along E Oak Island Drive. The Parade has consistently broken records for size and duration for the last three years running! That's why we're opening up applications now, to get a jump start on all the festive fun!

Join in with your **business, civic group, or organization** and help keep the trend going for 2025. To learn more and **SHARE** parade details with others, visit OakIslandNC.gov/PARADE or click the link below.



Bicycle Plan Open House

REMINDER: There's just **ONE WEEK** until the **Bicycle Plan Public Open House**, next **Wednesday, July 30**, starting at **5:00 PM** in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Town Hall. This is your chance for in-person learning and feedback on proposed projects for the **Oak Island Bicycle Plan**.



NOTE: This is a "floating event" and **not a structured meeting**, so attendance will be **in-person only** with **NO livestream or recording** available.

To learn more and help **SHARE** information on the Bicycle Plan, visit OakIslandNC.gov/BikePlan or click the link below.



Staff Spotlight: Justice Herman

This week, the Town is proud to ***Spotlight: Justice Herman***. Justice began work for the Town of Oak Island at the end of March as a **Planner** in **Development Services**, where she specializes in **CAMA and FEMA regulations and permitting**.



During a normal work day, Justice is out and about in Oak Island performing inspections and meeting with contractors and home owners, one of her favorite parts of her job.

Originally from a small town in California, Justice moved to Wilmington eight years ago and completed her Bachelor's degree at UNCW, and later earned her Master's degree in Public Administration while interning at Carolina Beach. On working for Oak Island, Justice said, *"I love the beach, and I love talking to and helping people, so it was a no-brainer when the position opened up. I have always loved the saying 'I work where others vacation!'"* **Fun fact:** Justice is left-handed, but is ambidextrous when playing tennis, softball, and golf.

To learn more about how Justice and the entire Development Services Department serve the Town of Oak Island each day, visit the ***Development Services*** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/DS** or click the link below.



SAFETY BRIEF



Family Safety Reminders

This past week, the **Beach Safety Unit** (BSU) published amazing video of a **missing child** being located and reunited with their family. Having travelled **over 1.2 miles** in the opposite direction, the child definitely felt "far from home" and was grateful for the ride back provided by our BSU crew members.

July 14, 2025 Oak Island Drone
Unit Locates Missing Child



With this particular response following several similar incidents recently, we took a moment to publish some important "**Family Safety Reminders**" which include:

- **KNOW YOUR LOCATION:** When entering the Beach Area, take note the **Rescue Tube Stations** on the beach side of the access pathway. These display the **nearest street** at the top of their signs. Teach children and family members to use these signs as "waypoints" to find their way back if they become lost or disoriented, or get carried further down the beach by a current.
- **CREATE A MEETING POINT:** When entering an open or busy space, like an outdoor concert, find a **specific**, but **highly visible** feature to use as a "meeting point." This can be a specific park bench, a food truck, or playground activity, where everyone can meet and / or be seen at if they become separated from the rest of the group.
- **TAKE A PHOTO:** Exploring new surroundings can be fun, but before ANY family members (including adults) leave the group, remember to take a photo so that you can show first responders exactly how someone looks that day. This will

help make it easier to locate them if needed.



- **DON'T RELY ON DEVICES:** Before settling into any activity, remember to make a **Game Plan** that doesn't depend on working phones or other tech. Make sure everyone knows:
 - **WHAT** they plan to do
 - **WHEN** to "check in" or meet up to leave
 - **WHERE** to meet if there is an emergency

Finally, remember that just like "highway hypnosis" can affect drivers on the road, the straight lines and similar landscape of a beach can often result in walking much farther than you realize. This can lead to fatigue and even disorientation. When going for a walk, especially in the heat of Summer, take frequent pauses to note your surroundings and how far you've come. Remember to use markers and waypoints like the Rescue Tube Stations. Most importantly, remember to properly hydrate and save enough energy for the walk back!

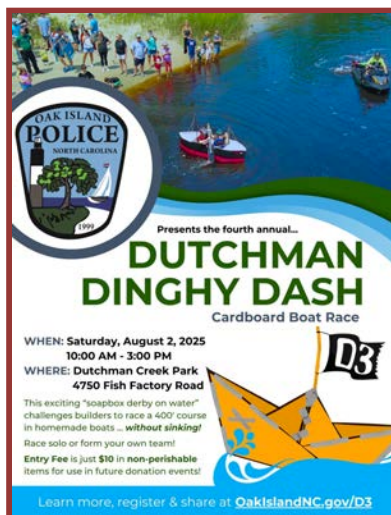
Coastal areas like Oak Island can be fun and exciting places to relax and relieve stress. However, it is always important to maintain awareness of your surroundings and learn how to avoid potential dangers. For more information safe and smart ways to enjoy Oak Island, visit the **Beach Safety** page at OakIslandNC.gov/SAFETY or click the link below.



Dutchman Dinghy Dash Is **BACK**

Fly the anchors and lower the sails ... or something like that! It's time for one of the most exciting events on the water Oak Island has to offer ... the **FOURTH** annual **Dutchman Dinghy Dash**.

This year's event will be held on **Saturday, August 2** from **10:00 AM - 3:00 PM** in the **Dutchman Creek Park** at 4750 Fish Factory Road.



Like a soapbox derby on the water, the "**D3**" challenges builders to travel up to 400' in homemade cardboard boats, without sinking! Form your own team and join with multiple first responder agencies, Town Departments, and local businesses who participate in and FUN community event for a good cause! The only **ENTRY FEE** is a donation of at least **\$10 in non-perishable goods** (canned food, utensils, etc.) for use in community donation events.

To learn more or **SHARE** this event with family and friends, visit OakIslandNC.gov/D3 or click the patch below. 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 or click on the link below.



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Class Cancellation

The **Sculpt and Flow Yoga with Tammy or MB** class for **Friday, July 25** at **10:30 AM** has been **CANCELED**.

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



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**.

Monday, July 21

- **Recreation Center**
 - 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: Peir 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 Shark Party
- **Recreation Center**
 - 4:15 PM – 5:00 PM Dance Lessons with Casey

Tuesday, July 22

- **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 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 Shark Party

- **Recreation Center**

- 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM: Line Dancing Club

Wednesday, July 23

- **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 Science Camp (Pre-Registration Required)

- **Cape Fear Yacht Club**

- 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sailing Camp (Pre-Registration Required)

- Cabana (Corner of SE 46th 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 Shark Party

- **Nature Center**

- 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Open for the Season

Thursday, July 24

- **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

- **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)
- **Davis Canal**
 - 10:00 AM – Kayak Trip down the Davis (Pre-Registration Required)

Friday, July 25

- **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
- **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 Science 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
- **E.F. Middleton Park**
 - 2:00 PM Between the Lines Book Club
- **Middleton Park Complex**
 - 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Summer Concert Series with Rivermist

Saturday, July 26

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 10:00 AM: Community Yoga with rotating instructors

Monday, July 28

- **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
- **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)

- **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



Kayak Tours



Dutchman Dinghy Dash



Summer Concert Series

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)

