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A Message from Mayor Doug Samples

On behalf of your elected officials, it is my privilege to welcome and thank each of you for choosing Surfside Beach as a place to live, work and play. Our town possesses all the attributes of a friendly and progressive community, maintaining a strong focus on proactive citizen involvement. We take pride in our family-oriented environment.

The Surfside Beach government provides superior services for each of our citizens, businesses and visitors. I am confident your town officials are capable and eager to help you with any concern for which you may require assistance. Whether it is gathering all available options before making decisions that involve your tax dollars or weighing considerations that have potential impacts on our citizens, the Town Council attempts to consider all options before reaching a final decision. We are fiscally prudent and, as your elected officials, we take the necessary measures to ensure that our current and future needs will be met in a responsible manner.

We are true believers in safeguarding all those qualities that attracted each of us to Surfside Beach in the first place. We continue to balance community, environment, and the economy in a way we hope all will be proud of and rely on your feedback to keep us on track. Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. We encourage you to attend and help guide us as you feel necessary and appropriate.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve. We continue to commit our energy and resources to this town and to each of you. We are big enough to be competitive and small enough to be happy -- a family-friendly community in which to live, work and play.

Doug Samples

**Upcoming
 Events**

(see page 4)

**50th
 Anniversary
 Photos
 Sought**

The town is seeking photographs for display and to be included in a commemorative book celebrating our upcoming 50th Anniversary. Be a part of this effort. Share your old beach photos, family photographs, and photos of landmarks. Date, location, and identity of persons must accompany photo(s). All originals will be returned to you.

To submit a photo: mail it or bring it by Town Hall at 115 Hwy 17 North, Surfside Beach, SC 29575 or email it to:

dellis@surfsidebeach.org

Amenities Offered by the Town of Surfside Beach



Oceanfront viewing

“Our public parks include something for everyone - children, seniors, dogs, fishermen, athletes and picnickers.”



Oceanfront viewing



Oceanfront

There are 33 public beach access points, several with seating/viewing areas. For the safety and enjoyment of everyone, please note the local laws which are posted at every public access point. Except for the Fourth of July, fireworks are prohibited.

The town contracts with Beach Services, Ltd, for services such as life-guards, the rental of chairs, umbrellas, floats, canvas cabanas, wave



runners, and water craft rides.

Public restrooms are located at the pier, 3rd Avenue North, 5th Avenue South and 13th Avenue South. Showers are located at the pier and at 13 additional beach access points.

Surfside Beach is proud to be a regional leader in beach recycling. The town supports an active Adopt-A-Beach cleanup program. Trash and recycling bins are conveniently placed for your use.

Visitors may notice shallow areas crossing the sand where stormwater drains from the towns detention basins (lakes)

into the ocean. These may appear to be attractive places for children to play; however, they are drainage areas. The “please don’t feed the wildlife” signs posted near stormwater detention ponds relate directly to the issue of clean water, since feeding of wildlife will naturally bring more of their waste into the water that eventually drains into the ocean.

The public pier where Surfside Drive meets Ocean Boulevard extends more than 800 feet into the Atlantic Ocean and is open to walking and fishing. It is ADA compliant and fishing licenses may be obtained at the pier.

Parks

Our public parks include something for everyone - children, seniors, dogs, fishermen, athletes and picnickers.

- ♦ Fuller Park on the corner of Surfside Drive and Myrtle Drive has two tennis courts, a playground and a picnic area with restroom facilities. Adjacent to this park is a

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Amenities Offered by the Town of Surfside Beach

(Continued from page 2)

branch of the Horry County Memorial Library.

- ♦ W.O. “Bill” Martin Park at Lakeside Drive and 8th Avenue South has a picnic area, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe pits, two bocce ball courts and a playground.
- ♦ W.O. “Bill” Martin Field is on Dogwood Drive between 6th and 7th Avenues South. This recreational complex includes a lighted multi-purpose ball field, picnic shelter, a batting cage and restroom facilities.
- ♦ The H. Blue Huckabee complex is located on Spanish Oak Drive off Glenns Bay Road. It is a ten-acre facility featuring three baseball fields, two football fields, four batting



cages, a “tot lot” for children from two to five years of age, a small lake, a concessions stand and restroom facilities.

- ♦ All Children’s Park on the corner of 10th Avenue South and Hollywood Drive has two playgrounds, a picnic area and restroom facilities. All Children’s Park is accessible to handicapped and able-bodied children.
- ♦ Passive Park is located at the corner of Surfside Drive and Willow Drive. Among the live oaks in this peaceful place, you will find a gazebo, picnic areas and the Town’s Veterans Memorial.
- ♦ The dog park area on Pine Drive adjacent to the Horry County Memorial Library has a separate fenced area for large and small dogs. Admission requires that all dogs have a current rabies vaccination and wear Surfside Beach tags (dog tag registration

renewals are due June 1 of every year and cost \$10.00).



- ♦ A skateboarding area is located next to the Fire Department.

Lakes

The town has ten freshwater “lakes” which help to control flooding and improve water quality. Some have peaceful, wildlife viewing areas. These lakes are an integral part of the town’s drainage system and detain water during and after storms to help minimize flooding. They also help to improve water quality by allowing pollutants picked up in the surface drainage to filter out of the water before con-

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Lakefront viewing

“The town has ten freshwater ‘lakes’ which help to control flooding and improve water quality. Some have peaceful, wildlife viewing areas.”



Skateboard area by the firehouse.



Veterans Memorial in Fuller Park

“Summer is the time for activities in Surfside Beach. ... As much as we’d like to, we can’t do 24/7 on the shore. So what’s a body to do?”



The first farmers market is May 28 and the event continues from 10 am to 3 pm on Tuesdays through October.

Summer 2013 Special Events

Summer is the time for activities in Surfside Beach. Year-round residents break out of their winter doldrums and join visitors to fill the nooks and crannies, sand and surf. As much as we’d like to, we can’t do 24/7 on the shore. So what’s a body to do?

How about helping Surfside Beach debut a number of activities? Gather the family together and head over to Martin Park each Thursday, from June through August – except the Fourth of July – for Movies After Dark at 9 pm. Catch some classics and family-friendly fare, along with concessions by Sophia’s. The schedule is shown on the right.

Fruits, vegetables and flowers from around Horry County are available at the new **farmers market** offered by the Waccamaw Market Co-operative. This weekly event will take place in the parking lot at Surfside Drive and Poplar Drive and will be held rain or shine. You can’t get fresher than the local farmers’ offerings. Many of these items were in

the fields the day before or early in the morning of market day. The first farmers market is May 28 and the event continues from 10 am to 3 pm on **Tuesdays through October.**

Memorial Day would not be summer’s kickoff without a **cookout on Sunday, May 26**, and what better place than Surfside Drive to enjoy summer’s bounty. Food will be served from 4-8 pm. Then on **Monday, May 27**, recall those who served at the **Veterans Memorial service**, which begins at 2:30 pm. (The memorial is located on Surfside Drive near the library.)



Gather at the pier on the **4th of July** to celebrate our nation’s birthday. The fun gets under way at 6 pm and concludes with **fireworks** at 10 pm.



Bring the youngsters to Fuller Park on **Monday, July 15**, for a **kids fair**, including games and other activities earmarked especially for the little ones.

Have a taste for the Hawaiian Islands? Indulge it with your friends and neighbors at the **Beach Luau on Aug. 12**, at the pier from 6-10 pm. Watch a fire dance or just indulge your inner islander. Food, fun and frolic are on tap.

Movies After Dark

- 6/6 – “Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked”
- 6/13 – “Rio”
- 6/20 – “We Bought a Zoo”
- 6/27 – “Horton Hears a Who”
- 7/11 – “Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days”
- 7/18 – “Bee Movie”
- 7/25 – “Parental Guidance”
- 8/1 – “Kung Fu Panda”
- 8/8 – “Hotel for Dogs”
- 8/15 – “Madagascar 2”
- 8/22 – “Cocoon”
- 8/29 – “Sandlot”

Got Flood Insurance?

Surfside Beach has “*high-risk and moderate-to-low risk*” flood areas as defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Owners of homes and buildings in “*high-risk*” flood areas with mortgages from federally regulated or insured lenders are required to have flood insurance coverage on their structures.

Owners in “*moderate-to-low risk*” flood areas who have mortgages from federally regulated or insured lenders are not typically required to have flood insurance. However, flood coverage in these areas is highly recommended. Nearly 20% of all flood claims come from “*moderate-to-low risk*”.

Just a few inches of water from a flood can cause tens of thousands of dollars in damage. During the past five years, the average paid flood insurance claim was nearly \$34,000. This would be an out of pocket expense if you do not have flood coverage.

Only 54% of the losses

caused by tropical storm *Sandy* this past year were paid by insurance benefits. The number one reason *Sandy*-related losses were not covered is most people did not have flood insurance. Source: AAA Carolinas. (Note: Regular homeowner’s casualty or South Carolina “Wind and Hail” insurance does not cover flood damages)

The same is true for business owners. Almost 40% of small businesses never reopen their doors following a disaster caused by flooding damage. From 2006-2010, the average commercial flood claim amounted to more than \$85,000.

Flood insurance is available to homeowners, renters, condo owners/renters, and commercial owners/renters. Costs vary depending on how much insurance is purchased, what it covers and the property’s flood risk.

Regardless of where you reside, rent or conduct business in Surfside Beach, it is highly recommended that you consult with your insurance agent

to assess your risk and acquire adequate flood coverage.

Another critical part of flood insurance is “personal contents” coverage. Usually, mortgage lenders require coverage on buildings but not personal contents. The National Flood Insurance Program provides coverage for both, but they are sold separately. Again, regular homeowner’s casualty or South Carolina “Wind and Hail” insurance does not cover flood damages to personal contents.

Typically, there’s a 30-day waiting period from date of purchase before your flood policy goes into effect. This means that now is the time to consult your agent and gain the peace of mind that flood insurance can provide.

Some good news: Sabrina Morris, Director of Planning, Building and Zoning and John Adair, Director of Public Works have recently completed certification courses that will result in a reduction of flood rates for some in our town.



Hurricane Hugo in 1989

Newsletter Distribution Policy

“Inside Surfside Beach” will continue to be mailed to everyone on our list, unless you ask to have your name removed. The town is, however, trying to conserve resources so you can choose to have the newsletter sent to you by USPS, e-mailed to you or just view it online. If you prefer to go paperless, let us know by sending an e-mail to newsletter@surfsidebeach.org. Please include your full name, address and ZIP code for record purposes, and indicate if you want an email when new publications are issued or prefer to view “Inside Surfside Beach” on the town website.



ADA pier ramp

Yard of the Month Program

The Yard of the Month program, sponsored by the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee, highlights attractive yards based on appearance, maintenance, grooming and uniqueness. The Mayor presents an award certificate to the winner and a sign is placed in their yard. The winners to date are:

January:

915 Poplar Drive North

February:

320 15th Avenue South

March:

414 Pine Drive

April:

413 13th Avenue North

May:

216 Hollywood Drive South

June:

1011 Cedar Drive North



Underground wiring project

Fire Department Smoke Detector Program

The Surfside Beach Fire Department would like to remind residents that a smoke detector is the first line of defense in saving lives. The most common cause of death during a home fire is not from the fire itself, but from the toxic smoke and gases released during a fire. These products of combustion often render victims unconscious or disoriented, leaving them unable to react, especially during the sleeping hours.

In the most recent data available, almost two-thirds of all fire-related deaths in the home occur in homes with no smoke detectors or non-working smoke detectors.

The fire service has known for many years that the best way to prevent these needless deaths is for people to follow some simple and effective fire-safety steps: equip their homes with smoke de-

tectors inside each sleeping room, in the area outside each sleeping room and on each floor of the home. Residents should test their smoke detectors weekly and practice exiting their home in response to smoke detector activation. Children, the elderly and people with special needs are the most vulnerable and should practice exiting the residence.

The Surfside Beach Fire Department Smoke Detector Program is for all residents of the town no matter what your financial status. The fire department will install them for you at no cost. If you rent your home, your landlord is required by law (International Fire Code Section 907) to install a properly operating smoke detector. You and/or your landlord are responsible for maintaining the smoke detector by replacing the battery (recommended twice a year during the time we change our

clocks) in your home. Should a renter have problems having their landlord put in a smoke detector, there are steps the fire department can take to get this matter resolved. The intent of the fire department is to make our citizens safe in their homes. Our goal is to have smoke detectors installed in all residences of our town.

Smoke detectors can be installed by members of the Surfside Beach Fire Department. Upon request, a home fire-safety check can be conducted at the time of installation. Trained personnel will identify hazards often unnoticed in the home which may cause a fire. In most cases, a few simple maintenance procedures can make your home safer. Personnel will also fully explain how your new smoke detector functions and how to maintain it.

If you have questions about this program, please contact the Surfside Beach Fire Department at 843-913-6369.

Amenities Offered by the Town of Surfside Beach

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tinuing to the ocean. Signage is posted to increase public awareness that water quality directly affects the quality of our ocean water.

Streets and Parking

Public parking is available for visitors at metered spaces only along Ocean Boulevard and Seaside Drive. Many of the meters will accept credit cards. Public parking lots with pay stations are located at 16th Avenue North (near the Holiday Inn), Yaupon

Drive (off Surfside Drive) and at 13th Avenue South (one block in from Ocean Blvd.). Enforcement of parking laws for areas near the beach is contracted to Lanier Parking Services.

Trailer parking for bike weeks: In order to keep trailers in areas better equipped to deal with larger conveyances, Surfside Beach is offering free parking for bike trailers only in the 13th Avenue South and 16th Avenue North lots. This is exclusively for town residents

and visitors residing in rental properties within the incorporated town limits. This is valid *only* during the following "bike week" dates: May 10-19, May 24-27, and October 2-6.

Golf carts: Can be a lot of fun for riding the family around town. Several local businesses offer them for rent. Laws governing the operation of golf carts are on the Surfside Beach registration sticker. Registration of golf carts is required by the Surfside Beach Police Department.

What is Accommodations Tax (A-Tax)?

The Accommodations Tax is authorized by state law for the specific purpose of promoting tourism in the state. Revenues are derived from the statewide two percent room tax, which is collected by the state, pursuant to Section 12-36-920 of the SC Code. State law limits the use of A-Tax to tourism related purposes. Additionally, state law allows the Town to impose a half percent local fee which is collected by the

town on any place in which rooms, lodging or sleep accommodations are provided on a short-term or transient basis.

The A-Tax Committee makes recommendations to the Town Council regarding expenditure of the revenue generated from the town's portion of the accommodations tax. The A-Tax Committee is comprised of seven members with a majority coming from the hospitality in-

dustry with at least two from the lodging industry and at least one from a cultural organization. This committee meets throughout the year.

The revenue received by the town through A-Tax provides for additional fire and police protection, helps maintain the beach and its amenities, and supports promotion, marketing and provisioning of our festivals and special events.



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"Surfside Beach is offering free parking for bike trailers only in the 13th Avenue South and 16th Avenue North lots. This is exclusively for town residents and visitors residing in rental properties within the incorporated town limits."



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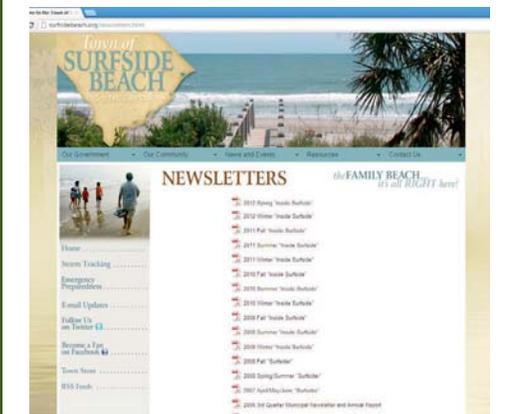
Inside SURFSIDE BEACH

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