

## **Weekly News Summary for Sunday, March 29, 2026.**

**Due to increased wildfire risk**, the N.C. Forest Service has issued a ban on all open burning and has canceled all burning permits statewide effective 6 o'clock, Saturday evening, March 28 until further notice.

“With drought severity across the state, forecast fire weather and the potential for limited rainfall, it is critical to reduce the number of new fire starts,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “Vegetative fuels will dry rapidly, and with the amount of fuel loading in the mountains and drought impacts statewide, a burn ban for all 100 counties is necessary to reduce the number of wildfires across our landscape. Please follow this burn ban to help reduce the risk for everyone.”

Under North Carolina law, the ban prohibits all open burning statewide, regardless of whether a permit was previously issued. The issuance of any new permits has also been suspended until the ban is lifted. Anyone violating the burn ban faces a \$100 fine plus \$183 court costs. Any person responsible for setting a fire may be liable for any expenses related to extinguishing the fire. The burn ban does not apply to fires started within 100 feet of an occupied dwelling. The local fire marshal has authority to issue a burn ban within those 100 feet.

Local fire departments and law enforcement officers are assisting the N.C. Forest Service in enforcing the burn ban.

The N.C. Forest Service will continue to monitor conditions. Residents with questions regarding a specific county can contact their N.C. Forest Service county ranger or their county fire marshal's office.

**Representatives from Hatteras and Ocracoke** Islands joined coastal leaders from across the country in Washington, D.C., this past week for the 2026 Coastal Summit, a three-day national policy forum hosted by the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association designed to connect local concerns directly with federal lawmakers, reports Island Free Press. The milestone event marked the association's 100th anniversary. Officials from federal agencies included the Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and Department of Defense.

An Advocacy Day centered on in-person meetings with congressional representatives.

Island Free Press has extensive coverage on the event and presentations by the North Carolina representatives. Go to [island free press dot org](http://islandfreepress.org). Buxton Civic Association posted the following: “BCA was invited to participate on a panel this week at the 2026 Coastal Summit hosted by the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association. We were proud to represent as community stakeholders, and share the concerns of access to Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands on a national level. We love this village - and we made this video to share with other coastal leaders and policy makers - to show them what a special place it is, as well as the issues we've faced the past few years.

“Thanks to Joy and Patrick with Island Free Press for documenting the Coastal Summit - and check out their article for more detail.”

Additionally, the Outer Banks Community Foundation recently awarded a total of \$60,000 in Community Enrichment Grants to nine nonprofits. The Buxton Civic Association was awarded a grant to assist with the registration fee for attending the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association Coastal Summit.

**Ferry operations** serving Ocracoke Island were suspended on Saturday morning due to inclement weather, according to the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Ferry Division. The suspension affected the Hatteras–Ocracoke, Ocracoke–Cedar Island, and Ocracoke–Swan Quarter routes. Service will resume once conditions improve. In Rodanthe and Buxton, Easter egg hunts were moved indoors due to the cold northerly wind. In both places, children had a terrific time collecting candy and special seasonal toys.

### **2026 Recreational Fishing Season for Golden Tilefish in the South Atlantic Region closed March 27, 2026**

The 2026 recreational fishing season for golden tilefish in federal waters of the South Atlantic started on January 1, 2026, and ended at 12:01am on March 27, 2026.

NOAA Fisheries predicted that recreational golden tilefish landings reached the recreational annual catch limit of 2,741 fish for the 2026 fishing year by March 27, 2026.

On Wednesday, the South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council held a “Lines of Communication” event in Hatteras village. The event drew 39 watermen and women to talk about issues and regulations.

Regional differences were highlighted. The federal Council covers North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and the Florida east coast to Key West.

About the Golden Tilefish shutdown, one waterman charged that Florida anglers had used up the entire quota. North Carolina watermen had no chance to fish for golden tilefish this season.

### **This week, residential trash collection changes**

In observance of the upcoming Good Friday holiday, all Dare County offices and facilities will be closed Friday, April 3, 2026. These closures include the Dare County Buxton Transfer Station. Buxton will reopen and resume regular hours of operation on Saturday, April 4.

All other Dare County offices and facilities will reopen and resume operating with their regularly scheduled hours on Monday, April 6, 2026.

Residential trash collection for the week of Monday, March 30, 2026 through Friday, April 3, changes as follows:

Monday, March 30 and Tuesday, March 31: regular collection days.

Wednesday, April 1: Buxton, Frisco and Hatteras

Thursday, April 2: Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo and Avon

Friday, April 3: No trash collection.

Commercial dumpster collection for Hatteras Island will take place Monday, March 30 and Thursday, April 2, 2026.

### **NCBBA continues donations**

The North Carolina Beach Buggy Association (NCBBA) continues to provide donations to the Outer Banks community.

Funding to local organizations is made possible primarily from the success of our annual Red Drum Tournament in the fall.

Association director Tom Brueckner met up with Larry Grubbs, President of the Chicamacomico Historical Association, to hand off a check of \$500 to for the Chicamacomico Life Saving Station.

The Chicamacomico Life Saving Station located in Rodanthe is truly an Outer Banks treasure. It remains as the most complete U.S. Life-saving station site in the United States. A must see is the Historic Reenactment of the Beach Apparatus Drill every Thursday at 2 o'clock from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

In addition to donations to the Chicamacomico Historical Association, volunteers are always needed to help in maintaining the buildings and grounds. The historic site and museum are open Monday through Friday, 10 to 5.

### **Two Celebrations. One Historic Day. Free Tickets Available Now!**

Dare County invites residents and visitors alike to be part of a once-in-a-lifetime celebration as the nation marks the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776!

On Saturday, April 18, the free Dare A250 "Liberty, Legacy and Lift-Off" Faire will bring history to life across two iconic locations—historic downtown Manteo and Roanoke Island Festival Park—for a full day of unforgettable, family-friendly festivities.

Rooted in a place known as the "Land of Beginnings," this milestone event honors Dare County's unique role in America's story—from the earliest English settlement attempts to the birthplace of powered flight.

**FREE Daytime Celebration in Historic Downtown Manteo**

A lively, open-air celebration that is free and open to the public from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. No tickets required. Featured are family-friendly activities and entertainment contests including best patriotic boat, best patriotic dressed couple and individual, best dressed dog and more.

**Star-Spangled Spectacular at Roanoke Island Festival Park**

**FREE Advance Tickets Required:** Go to [DareA250 dot org slash aire](http://DareA250.org/aire) (with an e)

**Roanoke Island Festival Park: 3:30 to 7**

Dare A250 celebration transitions to a powerful grand finale at Roanoke Island Festival Park beginning at 3:30 p.m. This second portion of the Dare A250 Faire is also FREE. However, due to venue capacity, advanced tickets are required.

This experience will deliver an unforgettable patriotic showcase set against the historic backdrop of Roanoke Island, featuring: Live music by Just Playing Dixieland, an Earth, Wind & Fire Tribute featuring the Ray Howard Band and the finale with a community choir.

Help Bring History to Life—Volunteer at the Dare A250 Faire! Be part of history in the making! To make this milestone celebration a success, enthusiastic volunteers are wanted to lend a hand and help create an unforgettable experience for residents and visitors alike. Visit the volunteer page to learn more and sign up online at [DareA250 dot org slash volunteer](http://DareA250.org/volunteer).

### **Cape Hatteras Elementary School and Radio Hatteras team up**

Hatteras Island has programming for A250. Cape Hatteras Elementary students have researched, written and voiced A 250 moments featuring historic tidbits. Hear these A250 moments on Mondays and Wednesdays at Noon and 6 o'clock.

### **Congratulations to Cape Hatteras Secondary bands**

Cape Hatteras Secondary's two bands attended a Music Performance Assessment at Elizabeth City State University! The High School Band earned Superior ratings for the third year in a row, while the Middle School Band earned an Excellent rating, the second highest possible distinction. What makes these results so meaningful isn't just the ratings, but also the incredible musical growth both groups have shown. These students rose to the occasion, handled the pressure with maturity, and performed with confidence and artistry.

### **Old Trent Market is open April 3**

The weekly Old Trent Market at the Frisco Woods Campground is starting with a special Easter market on Friday, April 3. Following the opening event, the market will transition into its regular weekly schedule beginning Thursday, April 16, and will be held every Thursday from 9 in the morning to 2 in the afternoon through October. The Old Trent Market is celebrating its fifth year. The weekly market is free and open to the public, and is held at 53124 N.C. 12 in Frisco. In addition to the regular Thursday markets, vendors will also participate in select holidays and special events hosted by the Frisco Woods Campground throughout the season.

### **Chicamacomico Life-Saving Station and Museum hosts Easter Egg Hunt.**

Bring little ones to the historic life-saving station in Rodanthe Saturday afternoon, April 4 from 1 to 3. Bring baskets. Attendees receive a tee shirt that says "I saw the Easter Bunny at Chicamacomico." The address is 23645 NC 12, Rodanthe.

### **Mighty Milly King events**

Hatteras Islander Milly King is five years old. She is fighting leukemia. Numerous events are scheduled to support the family. March 29: 24-Hour Prayer Vigil from Noon to Noon starting Sunday, March 29. Go to [Hatteras umc charge dot org slash Events](http://Hatterasumc.org/Events) to sign up.

All of March at Waves Coffee and Candy, all Mighty Milly drink purchase proceeds will go directly to the King family.

On-going: Thursdays and Fridays, Alien Java in Frisco is offering Blue Room Roasters, Starlight Espresso. 50% of the proceeds from "Little Warrior Latte" goes to Milly and her family.

April 4: Family Bingo at the Cape Hatteras Anglers Club in Buxton with Pizza provided by Angelos. Starts at 1 o'clock, Saturday.

**Saturday evening cruises** aboard the historic *Albatross* during April and May will benefit "Mighty Milly." The cruises are hosted by Capt. Ernie Foster. Tickets for the fundraising cruises are \$200 for the boat, with proceeds supporting Milly's family during her medical treatment. Legal maximum of 6 passengers. Bringing refreshments is okay. Meet at the Albatross Fleet Dock, Hatteras, at 6 o'clock. Cruises can be booked by calling 252-619-0136.

**Thanks for listening. This is Radio Hatteras.**