

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, June 30, 2024.

Temporary closure of national seashore beach off G.A. Kohler Court in Rodanthe

On June 25, Cape Hatteras National Seashore temporarily closed a small section of beach adjacent to G.A. Kohler Court in Rodanthe. The closure was due to exposed hazards, such as house-related septic systems, wires, pipes and broken concrete parking pads.

Hazards may also be present in other areas of the beach in Rodanthe, so beachgoers should use caution throughout the beaches adjacent to the village.

G.A. Kohler Court is off America Drive, which is the first road to the ocean after the roundabout.

Teachers and support staff receive increased local supplement

Dare County public school teachers and fulltime classified staff will receive new local salary supplements in Fiscal Year 2025.

At a noontime meeting June 24, 2024, Dare's Board of Education distributed \$1,631,841 for supplements provided by Dare County Board of Commissioners.

Teachers will receive \$2,000 and fulltime classified staff \$1,000 above enacted state scales.

Fulltime classified staff include office workers, custodians, instructional assistants and others who are not eligible to earn incentive pay.

The change is effective July 1, 2024. The funding is recurring and will be a part of the funding formula, used to calculate the annual county contribution to the Dare Schools operating budget.

For teachers, the additional \$2,000 supplement is added to the existing county supplement that starts at \$4,000 and increases with longevity to \$6,250 for 36 or more years of teaching. The state also contributes a varying amount for supplements based the school system's ability to pay. For Dare County for the last several years, that amount has been \$900. Since the state budget has not been enacted, that \$900 has not been added.

Only one Red Snapper July 12 for recreational anglers

North Carolina Marine Fisheries Proclamation FF-30-2024 states "it shall be unlawful to possess red snapper taken from waters under the jurisdiction of North Carolina or the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

However, effective only from 12:01 a.m. through 11:59 p.m., Friday, July 12, 2024, it shall be unlawful to possess more than one red snapper per person per day. There is no minimum size limit.

If the Regional Administrator for NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office determines that weather conditions classified by the National Weather Service at least as severe as a small craft advisory exist, or are projected to exist, in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone, the Administrator may modify the opening and closing dates of the recreational fishing season announcing via NOAA Weather Radio and a Fishery Bulletin any change in the dates of the red snapper recreational fishing season.

Bluefish commercial catch limited to 50 pounds per day or per trip

North Carolina Marine Fisheries Proclamation FF-28-2024 establishes a 50-pound possession limit for the commercial bluefish fishery per day or per trip, whichever is more restrictive.

The fishery will close by proclamation once the commercial quota is projected to be reached or December 31, 2024, whichever occurs first.

The proclamation was effective Friday, June 28, 2024 at 12:01 in the morning.

Go to Island Free Press for a more complete article.

Two Hatteras nonprofits receive awards

The Outer Banks Community Foundation awarded \$124,000 in Community Enrichment Grants to 11 local nonprofits this quarter. Foundation Grants Manager Scout Schillings reported every applicant received a grant this quarter.

Two Hatteras Island organizations received awards:

The Chicamacomico Historical Association was awarded a grant for the restoration of the 1874 Life-Saving Station in Rodanthe. This Community Enrichment Grant will help to complete phase one of restoration of the 150-year old station in time for the October Commemoration Ceremony.

Hatteras Island Meals received a grant to continue their effort in providing hot and nutritious meals Monday through Friday to indigent, shut-in, or immobile Hatteras Island residents.

Community Enrichment Grants are awarded four times a year. The next application deadline is Friday, July 26. Nonprofits must submit an online application in order to be considered for a Community Enrichment Grant.

For more information about Community Enrichment Grants, visit [O B C F dot org](http://OBCF.org).

Order trees starting July 1

North Carolina Forest Service will begin taking orders Monday, July 1, for conifer and hardwood seedlings. The Forest Service Nursery Program produces 16 million seedlings, enough native and genetically improved tree seedlings to plant roughly 30,000 acres.

Tree seedlings can be ordered from the online seedling store at [buy n c trees dot com](http://buynctrees.com), by calling 888-NCTREES (1-888-628-7337) or 919-731-7988, or the order form in this year's nursery seedling catalog available in July in county Forest Service offices. A user-friendly online catalog will soon be available, as well.

Customers interested in learning more about specific tree species and available inventory can speak with NCFS Nursery staff, as well as reference the ordering website or seedling catalogs. Most containerized seedlings are available and used October through March while most bare root seedlings are available and used January through March. Seedling orders can be shipped to one of 13 distribution centers statewide for a small fee or via UPS for a charge.

New program at Little Kinnakeet

In celebration of the 150th Anniversary of North Carolina's first Life-Saving Stations, Cape Hatteras National Seashore is now offering a unique program at the historic Little Kinnakeet Life-Saving Station just north of Avon.

Every Friday, meet a National Park Service Ranger for a guided tour to explore the inside of the 1874 Boat House and 1892 Cook House. Step back in time and experience a vital piece of North Carolina's maritime heritage!

Every Friday at 3:30 in the afternoon through Labor Day for the 45 minute program. The Little Kinnakeet Life-Saving Station is 3 and a half miles North of Avon on the soundside. There are no restrooms.

Here's the lineup for other educational programming:

Drop by the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Visitor Center Pavilion for Ranger-led programs at 11, Noon and 2:30 every day of the week.

Three programs are offered which require registration by calling 252-475-9603 beginning the Saturday prior to the programs, which are;

Kayak with a Ranger: Monday and Thursday, 8:30 to 10:30 in the morning. Equipment provided.
Soundside Explorers: Every Tuesday, 9:30 to 11.

Surf Fishing with a Ranger: Every Wednesday, 8:30 to 11. Poles provided. Bring bait.

No registration required for the Beach Bird Walk which is every Thursday from 8 to 9 in the morning. Meet at the lifeguard beach parking lot

Weather Service in Dare County.

National Weather Service staff spent June 27 at Jennette's Pier in Nags Head. The day started with a meeting on beach safety and rip currents, with speakers from across multiple states. A press conference about beach safety followed. In the evening, National Weather Service and Dare County joined to present hurricane preparedness information.

The National Weather Service will be at the Avon Fire Department Station July 30 at 2 o'clock for a Hurricane Community Forum.

OBX Shred Fest held in Rodanthe; will return

Island Free Press has published a detailed account of the 7th annual Shred Fest held in mid-May. Check it out.

Fourth of July run/walk set for early July 3 in Avon

Join the Barrier Island Group for its inaugural Fourth of July celebration with a four-mile walk or run on July THIRD!!

Kick off America's birthday with a four-mile jaunt on Hatteras Island through beautiful Kinnakeet Shores in Avon.

All registered runners receive an eco-friendly cup for use on the course, an icy cold towel at the finish, a cool finisher's medal, a performance t-shirt and a delicious breakfast/post-race party! Also offered is a 1776 dash for the little ones.

Part of the Barrier Island Group mission is to support local non-profits. Non-profit partners for this event are Hatteras Island Meals, OBX Buddies and Chicamacomico Life Saving Station. Come and have a great time while helping the Hatteras Island community.

Go to Barrier Island Group dot com to register and for additional information. Pick up shirt, bib and runner's cup for race day at the Froggy Dog Restaurant in Avon Tuesday, July 2 from 3 to 6 p.m.

Race day registration ends at 6:45 a.m., July 3. Race starts 7 a.m. Registration for 1776 Dash ends at 8 with race starting at 8:15.

Fourth of July events

The leaders and staff at Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Dare County, Hatteras Village and Radio Hatteras wish visitors a happy and safe Fourth of July holiday.

In Hatteras Village, a free community cookout is offered. And, the 11th Annual Golf Cart Parade winds through the village.

Hatteras Village free Community Cookout at the Village Center runs from 5:30 to 7:30. Burgers and hot dogs are offered. Find a spot to watch the parade. A bake sale for donations will be available. The bake sale is raising funds for summer camp travel costs.

The Annual Golf Cart Parade is a must. Golf carts will be decked out in red, white and blue in themes from patriotic to whatever. Registration to participate is encouraged but not required. Go to Hatteras Village on Facebook to find the registration.

To be in the parade be at Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum parking lot by 5:45. Parade starts at 6 o'clock and travels NC 12 to Eagle Pass Road.

Avon Fireworks Show at the Avon Fishing Pier, 41001 NC 12, Avon.

The Avon Property Owners Association applied for and received a national seashore permit to celebrate Independence Day at Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

A program starts at 9 o'clock and can be heard on Radio Hatteras 101.5 and 99.9 FM. Fireworks from the Avon Fishing Pier are scheduled to start at 9:15, Thursday, July 4. Patriotic music during the fireworks display is offered on Radio Hatteras.

About Fireworks

Cape Hatteras National Seashore visitors and adjacent homeowners are reminded that it is illegal to detonate fireworks, or have fireworks in your possession, on all land managed by the National Park Service, including all beaches from the southern Nags Head border through Hatteras and Ocracoke islands.

To be explicit: Use and possession of fireworks are illegal on all National Park Service lands including Cape Hatteras National Seashore beaches.

In addition to fireworks being illegal and a significant fire risk to local communities, the personal use of fireworks can be a considerable nuisance to humans, pets and wildlife.

Seashore law enforcement rangers will be patrolling the beaches throughout the upcoming Fourth of July holiday week.

Safe and sane fireworks are the only types of fireworks that are allowed in North Carolina. These devices include caps, snakes and glow worms, smoke devices, trick noise-makers, snappers, sparklers and other sparkling devices, such as fountains, which do not leave the ground.

For July 4 week, no changes to residential or commercial trash collection will occur on Hatteras Island. However, all Dare County offices will be closed July 4 and will reopen July 5.

Now, once again, have safe and happy holiday. Thanks for listening to this new shows. Tune in to 101.5 or 99.9 on at 9 o'clock for fireworks programming. This is Radio Hatteras.