

# The Edisto Beach Comber

TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH NEWSLETTER, EDISTO BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA (843) 869-2505

August 2013 – website – [www.townofedistobeach.com](http://www.townofedistobeach.com)

## **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

TIDE Committee	09/04	10:00 am
Council WkSess	09/10	10:00 am
Municipal Court	09/12	2:00 pm
Town Council	09/12	6:00 pm
ZBA Meeting	09/16	5:00 pm
PC WkSess	09/18	4:00 pm
Planning Comm	09/24	5:00 pm
Municipal Court	09/26	2:00 pm

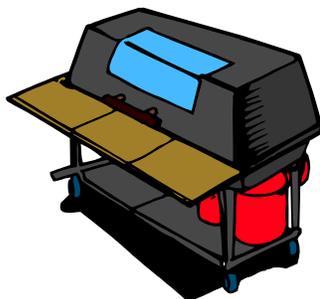
## **UTILITIES DEPARTMENT EBILLS**

The Town of Edisto Beach is sending out utility billings in the form of ebills to customers who have furnished email addresses. If you would like to receive your billing by an ebill, please contact Kelly Burris at (843) 869-2505 ext 201 or [kburris@townofedistobeach.com](mailto:kburris@townofedistobeach.com).

## **SIDEWALK/PAVING WORK TO BEGIN AFTER LABOR DAY ON PALMETTO BOULEVARD**

SCDOT will begin sidewalk improvements on Palmetto Boulevard on September 9, 2013. The improvements will be from Atlantic Street (600 block) to Baynard Street (2000 block). Once the sidewalk improvements are complete SCDOT will follow up with paving Palmetto Boulevard from Jungle Road to the 2000 block.

## **GRILLING SAFETY NEWS FROM THE EDISTO BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT**



There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food. But, a grill

placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. They can be very hot, causing burn injuries. Follow the simple tips below and you will be on the way to safe grilling.

Summertime is the peak season for grilling. More than half of home grill structure fires begin on either a courtyard terrace or patio, or an exterior balcony or open porch.

When using propane grills, check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.

Safety tips:

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grill and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended.

Charcoal Grills:

- There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

**TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH**  
**RECEIVES MASC 2013**  
**ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**



The Town of Edisto Beach received the Municipal Association of South Carolina 2013 Achievement Award for towns with a population of 1 – 1,000 for improvements to beach access points.

The article the MASC wrote for presentation of the award is as follows:

The improvements to Edisto Beach’s 38 public beach access points began in 1994, when officials committed to renovating two per year. The project’s goals were to provide beachgoers safer and more convenient access to the sandy shores and to make the town eligible for state funds that are awarded only to municipalities that meet standards set forth by the Beachfront Management Act of 1991.

Each public access is a road terminus that was deeded to the town in 1975. During the 18 year project, officials collaborated with many groups in the community – nonprofits, businesses and resident committees – to upgrade the access points to meet state standards.

Each access point had its own characteristics, but almost all of them were being encroached upon by private property. Officials worked with property owners to delineate boundaries. Another concern officials addressed was the health of the nearby dune system. Where appropriate, the town constructed dune walkovers to protect critical areas.

Funding came from a combination of grants and local taxes. Plans for each access point evolved over time, and although each one received upgrades, no two are alike.

The improvements are impressive. Better parking and reflective signage accommodate

Edisto Beach’s day-trippers. New rope fencing, as well as trash and dog waste receptacles, protects the coastal ecosystem. The town installed safety stations to educate visitors about seaside dangers like riptides. Volunteers constructed bike racks and beach-viewing benches.

Getting to the shoreline in Edisto Beach is easier and more enjoyable these days, thanks to the town and its residents who had a long-term vision and saw it through to the end.

**WELCOME FIRE CHIEF**  
**DENNEY LEE CONLEY, JR.**



After a nationwide search, the Town of Edisto Beach is proud to announce the addition of Denney Conley to the Edisto Beach Fire Department in the position of Fire Chief. Chief Conley will join us as of September 1<sup>st</sup> and we encourage you to come by and say hello and welcome him to Edisto Beach. Chief Conley comes from California where he has over 30 years’ experience in fire suppression. He is retired from the US Navy Reserve as a Command Master Chief E-9. He has been coming to Edisto the past 12 years and is a property owner on Edisto Island.

**TOWN HALL CLOSED FOR**  
**LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**

Town Hall will be closed Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> in observance of Labor Day. Have a safe and wonderful holiday weekend!

## **BEACH SWEEP/RIVER SWEEP**



Come and enjoy the beach and rivers but take back what you bring! Join us September 21, 2013, for Beach/River Sweep 9:00 AM to 12 NOON. Register at first beach access and bring paperwork back to state park at the first shelter house entrance across from Piggly Wiggly. These events are free and we even supply the bags and gloves. They're an easy way to do something good for our beaches and ocean and to raise public awareness of issues like littering and protection of our marine resources. Students can receive community service hour's credits for this activity. FRESpace will sponsor a luncheon afterward at beautiful Edisto Beach State Park.

For more information please contact Ida Tipton 869-4422. Kayak volunteers call 869-0663.

## **BEACH COMBER TREASURES**



**HERRING GULL**

Flying above a fishing boat or squabbling at a dock or parking lot, Herring Gulls are the most familiar gulls of the North Atlantic. Herring Gulls are large gulls with hefty bills and robust bodies. Herring Gulls patrol shorelines and open ocean, picking scraps off the surface. They rally around fishing boats or refuse dumps and are loud and competitive scavengers, eager to snatch another bird's meal.

In summer they can be seen in abundance along the Atlantic Coast.

## **EDISTO RECIPES**

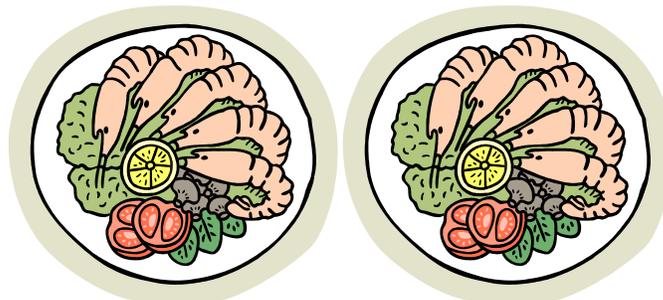


### **VIDALIA ONION CASSEROLE**

- 4 medium sweet onions such as vidalias
- 1 stick butter
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 cup grated cheese
- 1 cup milk
- 2 eggs
- 12-14 saltine crackers, crumbled

Sauté onions with butter. Grease a 1 ½ qt casserole and put half the cracker crumbs in bottom. Pour onions and butter over the crackers. Spread soup over the onions. Beat eggs and combine with milk and pour mixture over the soup. Spread rest of cracker crumbs on top and sprinkle grated cheese over all. Bake at 350° about 30 minutes.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL EDISTO SHRIMP FEST**



The Edisto Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Edisto Beach are sponsoring the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Edisto Beach Shrimp Fest on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at Bay Creek Park on Edisto Beach.

The event will be held from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm to celebrate the shrimping industry and its contributions to Edisto. Local seafood will be a focal point prepared using celebrated Edisto recipes. Again this year, arts and crafts vendors will offer some great shopping opportunities for island and other treasures. Shag dance entertainment has been added this year. A disc jockey will provide afternoon entertainment, and Sea Cruz will perform from 6:00 to 10:00 pm.

Make plans now to visit beautiful Edisto and be a part of this special event. For information call the Chamber at 843-869-3867.

**MINUTES**  
**July 11, 2013**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**6:00 P.M.**

Present: Burley L. Lyons, Mayor, Larry "Babe" Hutto, Mayor Pro Tempore, Pete Anderson, Tommy Mann and Jane S. Darby, Council Members; *Quorum of Council Present.*

Mayor Lyons welcomed guests and thanked all who served the Town of Edisto Beach.

Council Session opened with a word of prayer by Councilman Anderson who also led those present in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Mann moved to approve the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2013. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilman Mann moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2013. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Proclamations and Presentations**

**A. Starfish Awards**

Mayor Lyons presented a Starfish Award to Mark Farish and Del Dennis for pressure washing the watering station and wooden enclosure and benches at Town Hall in preparation for staining.

A Starfish Award was presented to Del Dennis for staining the above mentioned structures.

**B. Introduction of Fire Chief – Denney Conley**

After a nationwide search, Denney Conley has been selected as the new Fire Chief of Edisto Beach. He has over 30 years of experience in fire suppression and is retired from the US Navy Reserve as a Command Master Chief E-9. He has been coming to Edisto for over twelve years and is a property owner on Edisto Island. Mayor Lyons recognized Chief Conley, his wife Angie, two of his three sons, Dalton and Eli, and his father-in-law Frank Dozier.

**Committees**

**A. Municipal Elections Committee**

Suzan Kozub has resigned from the Municipal Elections Committee. Councilman Anderson

moved to approve advertising this vacancy. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**B. Zoning Board of Appeals**

Jeanine Rhodes' and John McAlhany's positions on the Zoning Board of Appeals expire September 1, 2013. They are both eligible to serve a second term. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve advertising these vacancies. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**C. State Accommodations Tax Board (ATAX)**

Jane Morrow and Walton Salley's positions on the ATAX Board expire August 1, 2013. They are both eligible to serve another term. Councilman Hutto moved to approve advertising these vacancies. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**D. The Image and Design of Edisto (TIDE) Committee**

Erin Garner's position on the TIDE Committee expires September 1, 2013. She is eligible to serve another term. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve the advertising of this vacancy. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

**Planning Commission**

**A. Lot A, Block 18 & Lot G, Block 19 – Edisto Beach Land Development – Property Line Adjustment.**

Mr. H. Wayne Unger, Jr., representing Edisto Beach Land Development LLC, owner of Parcel #357-02-00-0044 located between Dawhoo Street and Cheehaw Street, made an application to the Planning Commission to adjust two property lines located on the tract. This tract is located in the R-1 district. Per Section 71-44 of the Town's Code, this requires review by the Planning Commission and approval by Town Council. The Planning Commission unanimously voted to approve the motion. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve the adjustment. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**Departmental Reports and Committee Updates**

**Administration**

The finance report was presented by Iris Hill, Town Administrator, for the month of June 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_ | Received | Spent \_\_\_\_\_

General Fund	103.59%	96.22%
Water Fund	93.63%	94.35%
Wastewater Fund	77.34%	97.14%

Administrator Hill said that administration was looking into the discrepancy in the budgeted revenues in the Wastewater Fund. Administrator Hill welcomed Chief Conley and his family to Edisto Beach. She also thanked Brian Rowe for his willingness to take on a leadership role in the interim between the resignation of the Town's former fire chief and the hiring of Chief Conley. Mr. Rowe has done an exceptional job and is deserving of the Town's thanks.

### Building Department

The Building Department report was given by Patrick Brown for the month ending June 30, 2013.

	June-12	June-13	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$9,983	\$4,592	272,719
New Construction Permits	0	0	10
Other Permits	28	29	368
Permit Fees	\$2,411	\$2,055	\$52,536
Inspections	119	43	862
Bay Creek Park		\$830	\$8,801

Councilman Anderson asked Mr. Brown where we stood as far as additional lighting at Bay Creek Park was concerned. Mr. Brown said the Building Department had received a package from GEL Engineering that he would report to Council on in August.

### Fire Department

Brian Rowe gave the report for the month of June 2013.

Calls	June-12	June-13	YTD
Medical	34	31	232
Fire-related	3	3	26
Public Assistance	42	4	186
Beach Wheel Chairs	16	25	93

Mr. Rowe said that thirteen training events had been completed. The Edisto Beach Fire Department, with the assistance of the Colleton County Fire Department, are going through basic skills assessment. All EBFD personnel are performing well, according to Mr. Rowe.

### Police Department Report

The Police Department report was presented by Chief Coffey for June 2013.

	June-12	June-13	YTD
Citations	17	84	349
Speeding	4	75	274
Warnings	107	202	1,017
Alarm Calls	18	23	149
Calls for 2 or More Officers	11	11	103
Miles Patrolled	7,107	9,698	85,433
Assaults	0	0	2
Larcenies	7	7	57
Burglaries	1	1	13
Incidents & Calls for Service	138	182	1025
Golf Cart Violations	1	1	16
Domestic Violence Calls	0	0	1
Property Checks	1,005	2,402	21,433
Open Container	3	2	22
D.U.I.	0	0	8
CDV Arrest	2	0	1
Disorderly Conduct	1	0	10

On July 2, the radar trailer was put on Jungle Road and left for a week. It recorded approximately 11,000 vehicles during that time. The average speed was 30 miles per hour and 85% of the vehicles were going 35 mph or less. Councilman Anderson said he had two recent complaints of underage drivers of golf carts on Jungle Road. Chief Coffey assured Councilman Anderson that if any officer observed an underage driver, he/she would be stopped.

### Utilities Department

The Utilities Department report for the month of June 2013 was given by Bob Doub, Utilities Director.

	June-12	June-13	YTD
Pumped MG Water	26.59 MG	20.84 MG	198.11 MG
Treated MG Wastewater	6.07 MG	5.62 MG	46.58 MG
Water Line Repairs	2	9	599
Work Order Repairs	198	85	1,415

Eighty-six water meters were replaced on Point Street by the Utilities Department and James F. Pederson Co. Routine maintenance was performed on pump stations, wells, equipment, and grounds. James F. Pederson Co. will have the Point Street Water Project complete after disconnecting the two-inch line and taking it out of service.

## Public Works

Public Works Director Bob Doub gave the June 2013 report.

	June-12	June -13	YTD
Mowed Acres	30	98	1,443
Cleaned Ditches (miles)	4	1	44
Roll Carts Delivered	20	18	211

The Public Works Department has been busy cleaning the parks, beach accesses and bike paths and restocking dog waste bags. Mayor Lyons congratulated Mr. Doub on the recent article in The Colletonian, written by Rick Tobin. Mayor Lyons told those in attendance that the article would be available for reading at Town Hall if anyone was interested.

The Edisto Chamber of Commerce report for the month of June was given by Dan Carter.

- Blood Drive, Tuesday, July 16 at the Baptist Church from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Governor's Cup Billfishing Tournament, July 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, Edisto Marina
- Edisto Art Guild Exhibit and Sale, Edisto Island Museum, through September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Music and Shagfest, Labor Day weekend, August 30<sup>th</sup> – September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Carter expressed appreciation of the Chamber of Commerce to the SC Department of Transportation for delaying the sidewalk project until after Labor Day.

## Public Comment Period

Mr. Joseph Mole addressed Council concerning parking on Edisto Beach. He referenced a recent article from the Post and Courier mentioning local beaches and their rules concerning parking. In the article, Edisto Beach was the only one of the five listed that has no rules on parking. Mr. Mole stated he thought Edisto could easily remedy that situation. Mayor Lyons invited Mr. Mole to join the recently established committee on parking. Mr. Mole suggested providing parking at the two beach accesses that currently do not have public parking, and clearing overgrowth on others for easier access.

Mayor Lyons and Councilman Hutto recently attended the Corps of Engineers Change of Command at the Citadel in Charleston.

Administrator Hill thanked Town residents and concerned citizens who helped in the effort to delay the DOT sidewalk project until after Labor Day.

## Adjournment

Councilman Mann moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

*The media/public was duly notified of the date, time and location of the Council meeting on Wednesday, July 3, 2013.*