

# The Edisto Beach Comber

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

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

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

TIDE Committee	06/05	10:00 am
Council WkSess	06/11	10:00 am
Municipal Court	06/13	2:00 pm
Town Council	06/13	6:00 pm
ZBA Meeting	06/17	5:00 pm
PC WkSess	06/19	4:00 pm
Planning Comm	06/25	5:00 pm
Municipal Court	06/27	2:00 pm

## SEMI-ANNUAL UTILITY BILLING

The semi-annual utility billing for water, sewer, and garbage will be mailed the first week of June, 2013. The bills are for service from June 1, 2013, through November 30, 2013.

## 2013 ATLANTIC STORM NAMES



The 2013 storm names for the upcoming season in the Atlantic are: Andrea, Barry, Chantal, Dorian, Erin, Fernand, Gabrielle, Humberto, Ingrid, Jerry, Karen, Lorenzo, Melissa, Nestor, Olga, Pablo, Rebekah, Sebastien, Tanya, Van and Wendy.

## MEMORIAL WEEKEND FISH FRY



The Edisto Beach Volunteer Fire Department is having their Annual Fish Fry, Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Lion's Club from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Take out dinners will be available and also crafters and local artists will display their wares at booths. Come and support the volunteers. Hot dogs and dessert will also be available.

For booth information contact Iris Hill at 843-869-2505, ext 211. Donations can be mailed to: **EDISTO BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**, 2414 Murray Street, Edisto Beach, SC 29438.

## BEACH REGULATIONS

The public beach is fragile and subject to constant environmental changes. It is the nesting habitat to sea turtles and Least Terns. Its wonder invites many forms of recreation. Regulatory measures to preserve its value and beauty often are interpreted as harsh by many, yet of utmost importance by others.

State and local governments have mandated certain measures everyone should be reminded of from time to time.

## BINGO AT THE BEACH!



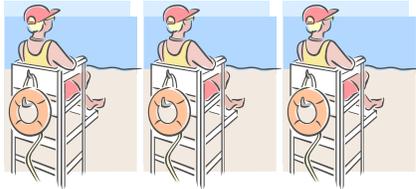
Come and join in on the fun!  
**Lion's Club Bingo**  
June 6 through August 8  
Tuesday and Thursday nights  
Doors open 7:30 pm  
Games begin 8:00 pm

The following activities are prohibited on the "Beach"

- ✓ Glass containers
- ✓ Parking on sand dunes
- ✓ Sailboats on sand dunes or grassy areas of the dunes
- ✓ Motorized vehicles including watercraft
- ✓ Fireworks
- ✓ Bon fires
- ✓ Littering
- ✓ Destruction of sea oats
- ✓ Tents, canopies, or umbrellas after sundown

Turn outside lights off oceanfront and underneath homes at dusk to protect Loggerhead Turtles during nesting season, May 1 through October 31.

In addition to the above list, on the sandy public beach from May 1st through October 31st, a dog shall be restrained by a leash, and remember to pick up dog waste.



Please practice personal water safety since no lifeguards are on the beach.

## **THE REFERENDUM**

The Town of Edisto Beach is holding an advisory referendum special election on Tuesday, June 25, 2013, to allow registered voters on Edisto Beach to decide whether to fund up to \$8,462,250 to build a reverse osmosis water filtration facility and Aquifer Storage Reservoir. This will provide better tasting water and provide a permanent solution for water supply issues in the Town.

### **The Cost**

The maximum estimated cost of this project is \$8.46M. The new system should be operational in late 2015 or early 2016 making the virtually undrinkable tap water pleasant to taste! This improvement will end corrosive problems that destroy appliances, water heaters and plumbing systems. The process will remove sodium, chloride, fluoride and other dissolved solids which may contribute to health risks.

These issues, particularly the taste, have driven a majority of homeowners to purchase various RO systems for private use. This will allow homeowners to eliminate the purchase and maintenance of private systems as they will no longer be necessary.

There will be rate increases for the use of water only to pay for the water quality improvement. No increases in sewer, garbage or taxes will be involved. Water usage will be reduced with elimination of private RO systems. Utilizing the Feasibility Study cost estimate of \$8,462,250 and the conservative (high)

estimate of operating cost of \$383,000 per year, the increase of water cost is projected to be:

0-24,000 gal/6 months (58% of customers)

Current \$21.54/month

Project \$42.07/month

24,000-48,000 gal/6 months (22% of customers)

Current \$1.44/1000 gal above 24,000 gal

Project \$2.81/1000 gal above 24,000 gal

48,000-72,000 gal/6 months (10% of customers)

Current \$1.61/gal above 48,000

Project \$3.14 gal above 48,000

Grants and other measures designed to reduce the project cost to customers and current low interest rates are expected to have a positive impact on the projected rates.

## **Referendum Language**

County of Colleton )	Notice of Advisory
)	Referendum
Town of Edisto Beach)	Special Election

In accordance with the provisions of State Law and by Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Edisto Beach, it is directed that an advisory referendum be held at the Edisto Beach Town Hall, 2414 Murray Street, Edisto Beach, SC on Tuesday, June 25, 2013 on the following question:

**Shall the Town Council of the Town of Edisto Beach be empowered to issue revenue bonds of the Town of Edisto Beach in the amount up to \$8,462,250 for the purpose of constructing a reverse osmosis (R/O) water filtration system to be used by the Town of Edisto Beach to provide municipal water that has a reduced level of sodium, chloride, and fluoride (which exceeds the state's secondary contaminate level) with revenue from the municipal water and sewer system pledged to defray the costs of construction, operation and maintenance of the system and debt service on the bonds?**

**YES [ ] NO [ ]**

**If the voter wishes to vote in favor of the question, place a check or crossmark in the square after the work "YES"; or if the voter wishes to vote against the question, place a check or crossmark in the square after the word "NO".**

To be entitled to vote in said advisory referendum, the voter must reside in the town limits of Edisto Beach and be currently and legally registered to vote no later than thirty days prior to the advisory referendum.

It is further directed that the polls for this advisory referendum shall open at 7:00 A.M. on said date and remain open until 7:00 p.m. at which time the managers shall count and publicly declare the results thereof.

DONE BY RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH, S.C. THIS 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2013.

### **Informed**

All information is provided on the Town's website at [www.townofedistobeach.com](http://www.townofedistobeach.com). You are encouraged to read the minutes from the Water and sewer committee and the studies. Attend one of the two public hearings to ask questions and receive information at the Civic Center at 42 Station Court on May 26, 2013, or June 15, 2013.

## **HURRICANE SEASON** **JUNE 1 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30**

**BE PREPARED** before severe weather threatens.

**EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT:** flashlights, battery operated radios, extension cords, extra batteries, plastic and plywood to secure your home.

**A TWO WEEK SUPPLY** of non-perishable food, water, portable can opener, first aid kit, essential medicines, important papers as well as EXTRA CASH.

Know the difference between a **"hurricane watch"** and a **"hurricane warning"**. A hurricane watch is issued when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 48 hours. A hurricane warning is issued when hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours or less.

Listen to the radio or television for hurricane progress reports and official instructions. Local emergency messages will be broadcast on the Community Channel (Cable TV Channel 2) and on the town website, [www.townofedistobeach.com](http://www.townofedistobeach.com)

### **EVACUATION.....**

During hurricane season the Town of Edisto Beach is preparing for the unpredictable. Should

an evacuation be ordered Town policy provides: "A curfew will be instituted upon evacuation of emergency personnel and Town Officials no later than night fall the night before, if land fall is predicted by 2:00 pm the next day. The curfew will remain in place until lifted by the Mayor or Official Authority".

For your safety and the safety of others, please follow evacuation notices; however, if you decide to remain on the beach during an evacuation you must stay at your residence during curfew. If you venture out you will be in violation of the curfew and subject to arrest and fine. This is for your safety and the security of property.

The evacuation route for Edisto Beach is Highway 174 to US 17. US 17 South to SC 64 West to Walterboro. Remember to evacuate early and beat the traffic rush.

Note: Boats, trailers, and RVs will not be allowed on Hwy 174 during the evacuation of the Town. Make arrangements to relocate these early.

**RE-ENTRY.....**Re-entry onto Edisto Beach will only be allowed after the Damage Assessment Team has assessed the beach and Town Officials have declared it is safe to re-enter. Upon re-entry you will be required to produce proof that you are a property owner, i.e., driver's license, utility bill, property tax receipt showing your physical address on Edisto Beach.

Please try not to call Town Hall after the storm. Town employees will not be able to tell you whether your property has sustained damage or not; however, Colleton County EOC will utilize different media resources to broadcast when homeowners are allowed to re-enter so that you may check/repair your property.

**AFTER THE "ALL CLEAR".....**After a hurricane, return home only after an "all clear" is issued by authorities. Remember, in the event of a major hurricane, entry may be closely monitored. Make certain you can identify yourself as an Edisto Beach property owner.

Drive carefully, watch for downed electrical wires, undermined roads, flooded low spots. Don't sight-see. Report broken or damaged water, sewer and electrical lines. Use caution re-entering your home and check for gas leaks and check all foods and water for spoilage.

One of the least thought of problems experienced is flat tires caused by debris in the roadways. Prepare for this with spare tires or repair kits.

**CLEANUP**.....Should you experience damage notify your insurance representative of any losses and leave word where you can be contacted.

Make temporary repairs to protect property to prevent further damage or looting. Use only reputable contractors (sometimes in the chaotic days following a disaster, unscrupulous operators will prey on the unsuspecting). Keep all receipts for materials used.

Cleanup responsibility falls to numerous local, county, state and federal agencies. A local emergency management coordinator will be available to help residents in this effort. To expedite debris removal, separate yard debris, construction debris and household garbage materials.

This information is provided to increase awareness. The key to effective management is advanced preparation.



## **EDISTO RECIPES**



### **Crab Cakes**

- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 6 green onions, chopped
- 2 (16 oz) cans crabmeat, drained
- 1 egg
- 1 Tbsp mayonnaise
- 1 ½ tsp Dijon mustard
- 1 clove garlic crushed
- 1 sleeve crushed buttery round crackers
- ¼ tsp ground cayenne pepper
- ½ tsp Old Bay Seasoning
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 cup panko or regular dry bread crumbs

Olive oil or butter for frying

Heat 2 Tbsp oil in skillet and sauté green onions until tender, cool slightly. Combine crabmeat and sautéed green onions with all other ingredients except dry bread crumbs and oil or butter for frying. Form into ½ inch patties and coat with dry bread crumbs. Heat oil or butter in skillet and cook cakes until golden brown on each side. Drain briefly on paper towels and serve hot.

## **BEACH COMBER TREASURES**



### **Calico Crab**

The Calico Crab or Lady Crab is a brightly spotted crab of sandy beaches of the Atlantic coast of the United States.

Found on sand and mud bottoms often buried in the sand with only the eyes showing, when food comes along it will erupt from its hiding place to seize the prey. They feed on plankton and invertebrates.

They are small box crabs named because of the way they can tuck their legs into their bodies giving the appearance of a neat box. They fold their claws in front of their face, as if hiding it in shame.

Look for these small colorful crabs the next time you are strolling the beach.

## **MEMORIAL DAY CLOSING**



Town Hall will be closed in observance of National Memorial Day on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

**MINUTES**  
**April 11, 2013**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**5:30 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 called the Public Hearing to order.  
**Second Reading of Ordinance 2013-06 to Amend Section 86-124(c)(3) to include civic organizations in the way finder sign program**

The wayfinder sign program was implemented to provide more information to locations of businesses and activities of the Town. When this was implemented it did not include civic organizations, thus not allowing the Lions Club and opportunity to gain more exposure. This amendment corrects this oversight. This item was passed with a 6-1 vote by the Planning Commission with David Cannon opposed. Councilman Hutto moved to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2013-06 to amend section 86-124(c) (3) to include civic organizations in the way finder sign program. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The Public Hearing was adjourned.

**MINUTES**  
**APRIL 11, 2013**  
**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 Hutto who also led those present in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Mann moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2013. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Proclamations and Presentations**

**A. Starfish Awards:**

**Kelly Burris** was recognized for assisting the Building Department with Business License renewals.

**Jimmy Mellersten and Quinn McCollum** were recognized for performing an exceptional job at 3208 Palmetto Boulevard while replacing a water meter.

**Julian Meggett, Alfred Meggett and Walter Hutchinson** were recognized for doing an outstanding job edging and cleaning Docksite/Lybrand bike paths prior to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Edisto Road Race.

**Sara Simpson** was recognized for her dedication in processing business license renewals.

Mayor Lyons read a letter from a visitor to Edisto Beach thanking Julian Meggett for his assistance when a woman fell while riding her bike.

**B. SCE&G Tree Trimming Update:** Jan Meierer from SCE&G introduced Lou Ehinger, Registered Forester, to present information to Council about certain Palmetto trees on the beach that were interfering with power lines or were a fire risk. He explained that twelve trees were Priority 1 and thirteen that were Priority 2. SCE&G will inform property owners in writing of plans to cut the trees if they are on private property that are an outage or fire risk

**Old Business**

**A. Second Reading of Ordinance 2013-06 to Amend Section 86-214(c)(3) to include civic organizations in the way finder sign program.** The way finder sign program was implemented to provide more information to locations of businesses and activities of the Town. When this was implemented it did not include civic organizations, thus not allowing the Lions Club an opportunity to gain more exposure. This amendment corrects this oversight. This item was passed with a 6-1 vote by the Planning Commission with David Cannon opposed.

Councilwoman Darby made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2013-06 to Amend Section 86-214 to include civic organizations in the Way Finder Sign Program. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**New Business/Appearances**

**A. Coastal Science Engineering Survey Report No. 6 February 2013** – Steven Traynam gave a PowerPoint presentation to recap the 2012 beach monitoring results of the Edisto Beach Restoration Project. Overall, ~52% of the 2005 – 2006 nourishment sand remains in the project area and 74% remains on the beach. From the dredged sand, ~80% of placed volume remains after six years. Mr. Traynam pointed out a break in the shoal on the South Edisto River

Inlet and recommending monitoring the break. Big Bay Creek has not shown any infilling, shoaling or significant change from 2010 to 2012.

**B. Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement between Colleton County Sheriff’s Office and Edisto Beach Police Department**

– Councilman Mann moved to approve the agreement between Colleton County and the Town of Edisto Beach for mutual aid. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**C. Agreement between Colleton County and the Town of Edisto Beach for Victim’s Assistance**

– Councilwoman Darby moved to accept the agreement between Colleton County and the Town of Edisto Beach for Victim’s Assistance. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**D. Fire Chief Resignation**

– Councilwoman Darby moved to accept, with great sadness, the resignation of Fire Chief Larry Waddle. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**E. Resolution 2013-R08 Fair Housing Month**

– Councilman Mann moved to approve Resolution 2013-R08 as Fair Housing Month. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Committee Vacancies**

**A. ATAX Board Vacancy** – Molly Watkins was elected by Council to serve on the ATAX board, replacing the unexpired term of Anne Vaughan in the arts/cultural sector.

**B. Municipal Elections Commission** – Mr. Frank Leavens’ position on the Municipal Elections Commission expires in May. Councilman Hutto made the motion to advertise for the vacancy on the MEC. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**C. Planning Commission** – Mr. Robert Sandifer and Ms. Wanda McCarley’s positions on the Planning Commission expire in May. Councilman Mann moved to advertise for the vacancy on the PC. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**Planning Commission**

**A. 124 Jungle Road – Sunny at the Beach, LLC** - Dana and Anne Rasmussen made application to the Planning Commission for a use permit to operate Sunny at the Beach LLC, a snow cone stand, from 124 Jungle Road, which is located in the C-3 district. Per Section 86-141(i) of the Town’s Code: requires review by the Planning Commission and approval by Town Council. This item was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission. Councilman Hutto moved to approve the submittal for 124 Jungle

**Planning Commission**

Road. Councilman Mann seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Road. Councilman Mann seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

**B. Official Town Zoning Map – Cabana Tract**

– On July 24, 2012 The Planning Commission approved rezoning the Cabana Tract in the Planned Unit Development with a vote of 4 – 1 with member David Cannon opposed. Now that the deed restrictions have been met, rezoning is being sought. Councilman Mann moved to approve Ordinance 2013-09 to change the PUD district map. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Departmental Reports and Committee Updates**

**Administration**

The finance report was presented by Iris Hill, Town Administrator, for the month ending March 31, 2013.

	Received	Spent
General Fund	82.63%	75.28%
Water Fund	81.01%	67.97%
Wastewater Fund	66.11%	63.01%

Administrator Hill reiterated the fact that Chief Larry Waddle would be missed. She thanked Councilwoman Darby for organizing the makeover of Council Chambers and the hallway in Town Hall, and the new handrails in front of Town Hall.

**Building Department**

The Building Department report was given by Patrick Brown for the month ending March 31, 2013. A new Codes Enforcement Officer, Nancy Layton, has been hired and began work on April 8.

	March-2012	March -2013	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$110,724	\$122,545	\$238,798
New Construction Permits	1	0	7
Other Permits	28	27	289
Permit Fees	\$5,255	\$2,944	\$35,370
Inspections	95	44	680
Bay Creek Park	N/A	\$1,120	\$6,186

**Fire Department**

Robert Griffin gave the report for the month of March 2013.

Calls	March-12	March-13	YTD
Medical	28	16	190
Fire-related	1	5	20

Public Assistance	9	23	115
Beach Wheel Chairs	5	2	82

He reported that two sets of turn-out gear have been bought and one was on order, which will be paid for with grant money. The fish fry volunteers are all in place and the mail outs will be sent in the next few days.

Police Department

The Police Department report was presented by Chief Bill Coffey for the month of March 2013. He introduced two new officers, George Brothers and Daniel Seyle. Officer Brothers comes to Edisto from Lexington County Sheriff's Office. He retired as a major with over twenty years' experience. Daniel Seyle comes to Edisto from USC-Beaufort where he was a Corporal. He has five years' experience and a degree in Criminal Justice.

	March-12	March-13	YTD
Citations	21	13	182
Speeding	16	7	73
Golf Cart Violations	1	0	15
Property Checks	1,115	1,365	12,642
Calls for Service	56	46	667
Calls Requiring 2 Officers	6	3	61
Burglary	1	4	12
Larceny	0	4	35
Assaults	1	0	2
Alarms	72	7	99
Traffic Warnings	1	110	489
Patrolled Miles	7,059	5,029	69,516
Criminal Domestic Violence	1	0	0

The Police Department still has one vacant position. Beach Patrol will begin on the weekends in May, then daily starting June 1 – August 31. The new UTV has been delivered and is being outfitted so it will be ready when the Beach Patrol season begins.

Utilities Department

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

	March-12	March-13	YTD
Pumped MG Water	11.10 MG	10.83 MG	138.54 MG
Treated MG Wastewater	3.50 MG	3.38 MG	28.91 MG
Water Line Repairs	0	8	
Work Order Repairs	165	122	1,144

Bio-Nomics has completed the sludge removal at the wastewater treatment plant. They removed over 1,000 tons of sludge. James F. Pederson Co. has been working on the water line replacement on Point Street and has installed approximately 4,035 feet of water line. The project should be finished by May 6. The pump at the Summerwinds lift station has been replaced, and the Lions Club well is set to be reinstalled on April 15.

Public Works

Bob Doub gave the Public Works Department report for March 2013.

	March-12	March-13	YTD
Mowed Acres	28	48	332
Cleaned Ditches (miles)	4	1.10	9.3
Roll Carts Delivered	6	4	157

Mr. Doub said the construction on the widening/repaving of Highway 174 being done by DOT would be complete by Memorial Day weekend.

Edisto Chamber of Commerce

Dan Carter, Chamber President, gave the March 2013 report.

- Edisto Pride Clean Up, Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.
- Edisto Island Historic Preservation Society Home Tour, Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>
- King's Daughters Edisto Day Bazaar, May 4<sup>th</sup>
- Legislative Delegation Meeting at Bay Creek Park on May 6<sup>th</sup>

Councilman Mann asked the Town Administrator to initiate contact with Colleton County to see if the Town could get one or more Deputy Coroners named for Edisto Beach.

Public Comment Period

No one signed in to speak.

Councilman Hutto made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

*The media/public was duly notified of the date, time and place of the Council Meeting on Friday, April 5, 2013*