

Town of Edisto Beach

Monthly Highlights

December 2024



IMPORTANT

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Holiday Message from Mayor and Council

As we enter this holiday season, Town Council would like to take a moment to reflect on the spirit of Christmas and the incredible sense of community we share here on Edisto Beach.

During this time of the year, when we gather with family and friends, share in laughter, and reach out to those who may need extra support or warmth, we hope our residents and friends find joy and peace in the moments that matter most. Whether you are celebrating at home, volunteering to help others, or simply enjoying the holiday lights in our beautiful town, we wish the very best of holidays to each of you.

We are grateful that 2024 has been a year of progress and growth for Edisto Beach, and it's all thanks to our dedicated residents, local businesses, community groups, and our experienced and committed Town employees. Together, we continue to build a town where everyone feels welcome, valued, and connected.

As your Mayor, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve this wonderful community, and I know each Council member – Jerome, Bob, Jay, and Joey – feels the same way. It is our wish that this holiday season brings you all good health, happiness, and the warmth of knowing that we are all in this together. Let's continue to support one another as we look forward to the new year and all the opportunities it holds.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your loved ones!

All our best,
Crawford Moore
Mayor



Happy New Year!

SCIIP Grant Wastewater Improvements Update

In 2023, the Town received \$8,904,385 in funds through the South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP), made possible by State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act, as well as \$500,000 from the Rural Infrastructure Authority, to be used toward wastewater system upgrades within the Town. Edisto Beach Town Council and Town staff have been focused on working through the various phases of the grant.

On April 8, 2021, the Town imposed a temporary moratorium on the issuance and approval of building permits for new or additional connections to the Town's sewer system. At a Special Council Meeting held on August 24, 2022, Mr. Bill Bingham, American Engineering Consultants, Inc., presented the SCIIP Grant Application for "wastewater system upgrades of plant, forcemain, and pump project" in the amount of \$10 million, and Council unanimously approved the submission of the SCIIP grant application. On April 24, 2023, the Town's SCIIP grant application was approved for the total cost of all recommended improvements as presented. Projects must be completed by December 2026.

As part of Phase I of the wastewater upgrades, Pump Stations A & B were undertaken during 2023 and 2024, with larger pumps installed, along with new variable frequency drives and controls at both pump stations. Pump Station B construction was completed in June 2023, and Pump A construction was completed in September 2024, and both pump stations are in operation. Following the improvements and construction to the two pump stations, the moratorium

imposed in April 2021 was terminated by Town Council at the October 10, 2024, regular monthly meeting.

Another important project in Phase I is an eight inch (8") forcemain to be installed, which is located on the golf course. The forcemain will be built parallel to the existing line from the point where the forcemains from Pump Stations A, B, and C connect together to the wastewater treatment plant. An easement agreement for this work was signed by the Town and Plantation Golf Course. Bids for the forcemain work were opened on November 20, and Town Council approved the low bidder, Southern Fiber Construction Co., LLC, in the amount of \$454,740 at a special meeting on November 26, 2024. Work will begin shortly and the anticipated completion date is March 2025.

The other projects the Town will be completing include upgrades and modifications to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and all remaining pump stations.

SCIIP grant funds are critical in improving our aging wastewater treatment system and will help to ensure we are providing the best service possible to our residents and many seasonal visitors.



Upgraded control panel at Pump Station A

Utilities - Billing

Bills for trash collection, water, and sewer for the December 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025, billing cycle have been mailed to all Edisto Beach homeowners. If you have not received your bill in the mail, please contact Teri Bloomingdale via email at:

tbloomingdale@townofedistobeach.com
or by telephone at 843-869-2505, ext. 201.

As a reminder, the due date for bill payment is January 7, 2025. If the bill is paid after this date, a ten percent (10%) late fee is also charged. The reconnection fee is \$50 for water and \$25 for sewer.

Town Hall Closed for Holidays

Please note Town Hall will be closed on the following dates:

- December 24, 25, 26
- January 1

Christmas Tree/Beach Access 10

Thanks to two members of our TIDE Committee, Edye Graves and Lisa White, a tree has been placed at Beach Access 10 for those wishing to take family holiday photos. Stop by and see this beautifully decorated tree and snap a quick photo to add to your memory book!



Town Holiday Events

The Town's annual Tree-Lighting and Sing-a-long was held on Sunday, December 1, at Bay Creek Park. The tree-lighting was spectacular again this year!



Photo credit: Dennis Iskra

The Town's **Holiday Mix and Mingle** will be held on Friday, December 13, from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Bay Creek Park. Come enjoy music, food, drink, art, and gifts!

The Edisto Chamber will sponsor a **movie** at Bay Creek Park on December 13 following the Holiday Mix and Mingle.

As well, the Edisto Chamber will sponsor the annual **Christmas Parade** on December 14 at 2:00 p.m. Join us at this annual holiday tradition on Edisto Beach!



November 2024 Town Council Meeting Highlights

At the regular monthly Town Council meeting held on November 14, 2024, the following are a few of the items approved by Council:

- Emergency purchase of equipment, chemicals, and service from Pinckney Well Drilling & Water Industry for 8 Monitoring Wells in the amount of \$24,999; this will bring the 8 monitoring wells on the golf course into compliance with the SC Department of Environmental Services regulation.
- Convenience Center Attendant Agreement extension with Lyons Contracting; this is the fourth and final extension of the current contract to December 1, 2025.
- Encroachment Permit Application for 711 Jungle Road was approved for a post and rope fence located on Jungle Shores Drive behind the residence.
- Commercial Sub-Lease Agreement for the Civic Center with The Edisto Art Guild for a term to begin December 1, 2024, and end November 30, 2026, for a term rental of \$4,758 for Year One and \$4,925 for Year Two, and additional costs for the annual play performances.
- RFP #2024-26, Bid for Public Access Signage in the amount of \$36,543.53 to Vista Signs for 49 public access signs for the beach access points and two signs for Jungle Road Park and Parking Lot to be paid from ATAX funds.

As a reminder, Council agendas and minutes are found on our website [HERE](#).

- ATAX Board recommendations as follows:
 - Edisto Beach Police Department for the purchase of a Zodiac boat motor and trailer in the amount of \$7,263.
 - Town of Edisto Beach, Public Access Signage in the amount of \$36,543.53.
 - Town of Edisto Beach, Bell Property annual debt bond in the amount of \$50,000 for the bond debt service.
- Special Event Application for ALOE's Paddling for the Pups on April 12, 2025, at Bay Creek Park; Council also waived the rental fee for the Park for this fundraiser.

At the Council Work Session held on November 12, Davis & Floyd presented the Lagoon Study Draft Report.

As well, the 2023-2024 Audited Financial Statements were presented by The Brittingham Group, LLP, reporting a "clean opinion," at the November 14 meeting.

