

Welcome to Bald Head Island!

Listen...Do you hear the birds? The surf? The forest whispering?
In this unique island community, we strive to live in harmony with nature.

Our fragile barrier island is comprised of four unique, yet integrated ecosystems: miles of pristine beaches; healthy dunes and dune ridges; a maritime forest; and thousands of acres of salt marsh. We hope you will experience and enjoy each while respecting not merely the island's natural beauty, but also all the wonderful creatures that inhabit this magical place.

Join us in protecting and preserving all that Bald Head Island has to offer!

YOUR SAFETY IS IMPORTANT!

EMERGENCIES

- Always call 911. Let us come to you.
- Tell the operator that you are on Bald Head Island.
- Paramedics/Firefighters/Police are on duty 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- An island medical clinic is open Memorial Day through Labor Day.

ROAD SAFETY

- Licensed drivers only.
- No driving while impaired and no open containers allowed.
- All traffic laws strictly enforced; top speed is 18 mph.
- Approach and pass bicyclists with caution.

BICYCLE & PEDSTRIAN SAFETY

- Helmets are required for those 16 years old and younger.
- Ride bicycles with the traffic; walk against the traffic.
- Bicyclists are subject to the same rules of the road as other vehicles (stay to the right).

BEACH PRESERVATION & SAFETY

- Use only designated beach accesses. Stay off the dunes (\$500 fine).
- Walking on stabilized sand groins and rock jetties are prohibited.
- Leave the beach as you found it. Remove furnishings and **fill in holes**.
- Beach bonfires are by permit-only for non-commercial entities between November 16 & April 30. Extinguish all embers, clear all debris and fill all holes.

FIRE SAFETY

- Know your street address in addition to your house name.
- No fireworks. The possession and use of fireworks are prohibited on Bald Head Island.
- Monitor open flames of candles and cigarettes.
- Extinguish and dispose of cigarettes properly (FREE pocket ashtrays available @ Village Hall).

WATER SAFETY

- Swim at your own risk. There are no lifeguards.
- Know how to swim out of an undertow.
- Be aware of rip currents.
- Note beach access number for emergency response. Call 911 for emergencies.
- Avoid swimming near shoals.

PET SAFETY

- Any dog on the beach from sunset to sunrise every day during Turtle Season (May through November) must be leashed.
- Pick up after your dog. Public accesses are supplied with bags to assist with the appropriate disposal of waste.
- Place IDs on all pets.

WILDLIFE

- Do not feed, approach or harass alligators (\$500 fine) or any other wildlife.
- **Never** approach a sea turtle (up to a \$100,000 fine).
- Report unusual animal behavior to 911.
- Fishing is prohibited in all ponds and lagoons on the island.
- Acquire a saltwater fishing license before fishing in marsh or ocean.
(<http://www.ncwildlife.org/>)



For more information go to
www.villagebhi.org

