



Oak Island Beach Preservation Society, Inc.

# The Beach Preserver

June 2026

[www.beachoki.org](http://www.beachoki.org)

Be a  
**Beach Lover!**

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

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Mary McBride

### WEB ADMINISTRATOR

Crissy Martin

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Lathan Mills

Amanda Rainwater

### VOLUNTEER BEACH CLEANUP COORDINATOR

Skip Cox

### TOWN REPRESENTATIVE

Scott Thornall, Public Works

The month of JUNE.....it's a sure sign that summer is here.....brighter mornings, longer days and summer settling in.

With summer underway, the Beach Preservation Society is in high gear! We have been busy with beach cleanups, beach sweeps, filling doggie bag boxes, Farmers Markets, our Fort Fisher Aquarium Series and the awarding of college scholarships. You can read all about these activities throughout this newsletter.

We look forward to the extended sunlit days, and enjoying all that our amazing island has to offer. Beyond our beautiful beaches, we are fortunate to be surrounded by marshes, canals, the ICW, rivers and inlets. These fragile environments depend on our care and we acknowledge our responsibility to preserve them. Together, we can protect these natural treasures. By caring for our home, we can ensure future generations will be able to enjoy its beauty for years to come.



## Spring/Summer Beach Cleanup

Our first beach cleanup of the year took place on Saturday, June 6, and it was a great success. We were joined by 47 volunteers who collected an impressive 2,002 pounds of trash during the 13-mile cleanup effort.

The results show encouraging progress compared with last September's cleanup, when a total of 2,753 items were collected. Another notable improvement was the significant reduction in cigarette butts found along the beach—from 1,294 last September to just 614 this June. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped keep our beaches clean. You can check out our collections numbers for each item below.

| BEACH CLEANUP COLLECTION RECORD                             |                       |      |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Date: 6-6-26                                                | # of Participants: 47 |      |        |
| Total Weight of Trash Collected:                            | 32                    | 96   | 68 lbs |
| Most Often Found                                            | East                  | West | Total  |
| Aluminum Cans                                               | 14                    | 26   | 40     |
| Glass Bottles                                               | 0                     | 2    | 2      |
| Plastic Bottles                                             | 5                     | 32   | 37     |
| Plastic Straws                                              | 20                    | 17   | 37     |
| Plastic Utensils/Cups                                       | 51                    | 35   | 86     |
| Food/Candy Wrappers                                         | 169                   | 106  | 275    |
| Plastic Bags                                                | 13                    | 18   | 31     |
| Paper/Cardboard                                             | 88                    | 118  | 206    |
| Cigarette Butts                                             | 353                   | 261  | 614    |
| Plastic Cigar Tips                                          | 3                     | 6    | 9      |
| Toys                                                        | 27                    | 18   | 45     |
| Glasses/Goggles                                             | 22                    | 1    | 23     |
| Clothing/Shoes                                              | 1                     | 7    | 8      |
| Hair Ties/Scrunchies                                        | 8                     | 10   | 18     |
| Face Masks                                                  | 1                     | 0    | 1      |
| <b>Fishing &amp; Boating Debris</b>                         |                       |      |        |
| Fishing Line/Hooks                                          | 4                     | 6    | 10     |
| Net/Netting                                                 | 11                    | 3    | 14     |
| Rope                                                        | 14                    | 3    | 17     |
| <b>Fragments Smaller Than A Quarter</b>                     |                       |      |        |
| Foam/Styrofoam                                              | 36                    | 16   | 52     |
| Plastic                                                     | 244                   | 159  | 403    |
| Glass                                                       | 0                     | 12   | 12     |
| <b>Other</b>                                                |                       |      |        |
| Larger Plastic                                              | 36                    | 32   | 68     |
| Larger Foam/Styrofoam                                       | 5                     | 13   | 18     |
| Band-aids                                                   | 11                    | 10   | 21     |
| String/Straps/Bungees                                       | 49                    | 13   | 62     |
| Chair/Umbrella/Tent                                         | 1                     | 0    | 1      |
| Construction Items                                          | 10                    | 7    | 17     |
| Other Cloth/Fabric/Burlap                                   | 67                    | 37   | 104    |
| Tires                                                       | 0                     | 1    | 1      |
| <b>Additional Items Found:</b>                              |                       |      |        |
| 1. Scrunchies 4. Clogs 9. Vape                              |                       |      |        |
| 2. Bottle caps (22) 5. Pump Bag 6. Lost Stakes 8. Wet Wipes |                       |      |        |
| 3. Ballroom                                                 |                       |      |        |

Our Fall Beach Cleanup will be held in the September/October time frame. Please check future newsletters as well as social media for our designated date.



**I promise I will:**

- Keep off dunes and plants
- Pick up trash
- Fill all holes
- Keep glass off the beach
- Protect sea turtles
- Remove all gear from the Beach by 8:30pm each day



## Fort Fisher Aquarium Summer Series

Our summer Fort Fisher Aquarium Series kicked off on Thursday, June 11, with *Habitat Fixer Upper*. We had a wonderful turnout of both children and adults. Kristin was an excellent presenter who kept the audience engaged throughout the program. We look forward to welcoming her back for our July and August presentations.

We encourage families with children, grandchildren and visiting young guests to attend these educational and fun programs. All events are FREE and are held at the Oak Island Recreation Center. While registration is not required, it is helpful for seating purposes. If you have any questions, please contact us at [okibpsi@gmail.com](mailto:okibpsi@gmail.com).

Our July program, *Sea Turtle 911*, is scheduled for Thursday, July 9, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. The final program in this summer's series will be *Fantastic Fish*, which will be held Thursday, August 13.



## 2026 BPSI College Scholarship Recipients

Each year, BPSI awards two Brunswick County high school seniors a \$2,000 college scholarship to support their upcoming college experience. Recipients are selected based on their commitment to a college or university, pursuit of a degree in ocean or environmental studies and outstanding academic achievement.

We are pleased to announce this year's scholarship recipients: **Sadie Baumgard** and **Boris Horton**.

Congratulations to these deserving young adults on their accomplishments and dedication to their future careers. We wish them every success as they begin this exciting new chapter and pursue their educational and professional goals.

We look forward to seeing all they will achieve and the positive impact they will make in the years ahead. Congratulations, Sadie and Boris!

# SADIE BAUMGARD



*Sadie graduated Southport Christian School this Spring and will attend the Citadel this Fall to study Mechanical Engineering. She hopes to be a Naval Engineering Officer.*



**THE CITADEL**  
THE MILITARY COLLEGE  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

2  
0  
2  
6

# BORIS HORTON



Boris graduated North Brunswick High School this Spring and will be attending UNC Wilmington this Fall to study Marine Biology. He hopes to be a Marine Scuba Diver.







## We Love the Beach....And We Love Our Volunteers!

A big thank you to **Jameson G.** for spending a weekend in May helping our community while earning volunteer hours for the National Honor Society!

Jameson traveled from The Point to McGlamery, checking every dog waste station and refilling any boxes that needed attention. Along the way, he discovered a station that needed repair. He promptly notified us and even made a temporary fix to keep it operational until permanent repairs could be completed. Thanks to Jameson's hard work, the BPSI volunteer dog box fillers were able to take the week off knowing all of the stations were fully stocked and ready for use.



for

We are always grateful when students and community members choose to volunteer with us, especially when they dedicate their time and energy to making a difference. Thank you, Jameson, for your initiative, hard work and willingness to help!



And thank you **Carolina Exclusives Real Estate** for conducting a beach sweep on June 3! We are grateful for community partners who share our passion for keeping our beaches clean and beautiful for everyone to enjoy. Their commitment to protecting our coastal environment helps make a meaningful difference, and we are excited to see more groups join us in caring for this special place we call home.



## Busy Summer Months Mean More Hands Needed!

As the busy summer season continues, we are looking for volunteers to help maintain the doggie bag boxes located at each beach access. These boxes provide an important service for pet owners and help keep our beaches clean and enjoyable for everyone.

The role is simple but essential—when a box runs out of bags, volunteers help refill it. The Beach Preservation Society provides all dog bags and zip ties needed for the job. You can volunteer for a single beach access or take on multiple locations. Any amount of help is greatly appreciated and makes a positive difference in our community.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Lee Ann Lyon at [Lee-annLyon@aol.com](mailto:Lee-annLyon@aol.com).



And with summer here, we are now into *Beach Sweep Season*:

The public is invited to join Beach Preservation for its first public sweep of the season. These sweeps are only five minutes in duration. You can come alone, bring some friends or a group from work, church, etc.

You will be amazed at what a group can find in five minutes. And it is a quick way to clean up the debris! Our first Sweep is scheduled for June 23rd at 8:30am at the 70th St. East Access. Come out and join us!



## Board Members Needed!

Board members commit to three-year terms. All are welcome to attend a Board meeting and get to know our mission, members, projects and events. We meet at the OKI Senior Center adjacent to Town Hall the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Please contact us with any questions at [okibpsi@gmail.com](mailto:okibpsi@gmail.com). Additionally, if you know any non-members who might have an interest, please pass this along to them.

## OUR MISSION

The Oak Island Beach Preservation Society, Inc., is dedicated to education and community engagement, enhancing the Oak Island beach experience and leaving the beach better for everyone now and in the future.

Thank you to a generous individual who donated \$100 to the Beach Preservation Society, Inc. in honor of Board Member Rosina Whitfield who passed away this spring.



## Thank you to our generous Sponsors!



***Check out our new T-shirt design on our website. The shirts are also available at our Beach Preservation events!***



## Business Sponsorship Opportunities

If you own a business and are interested in our **BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM**, we would love to partner with you. Sponsors help support our mission to protect and preserve our beaches. They will be featured in our newsletter, at our events, on social media and on our website. A variety of sponsorship levels are available to fit varying needs. We'd love to connect and explore how we can work together. Please reach out to us at [okibpsi@gmail.com](mailto:okibpsi@gmail.com) — we look forward to hearing from you! More information on our sponsorships can be found on our website at: <https://beachoki.org/business-sponsorships/>

### **Bronze Level Sponsorship: \$250/year**

**Sponsorship Advertising on OKIBPS Website**

**Sponsorship Advertising at Education Seminars**

**Free Tumbler**

### **Silver Sponsorship: \$350/year**

**All Bronze benefits**

**Sponsorship Advertising in the OKIBPSI Newsletter**

**One Free Merchandise Item**

### **Gold Sponsorship: \$500/year**

**All Benefits of Bronze and Silver Levels**

**Sponsorship Advertising at the Annual Fundraising Event**

**One Free Ticket to the Annual Fundraising Event**



**MEMBERSHIP**



## MEMBERSHIP

# THANK YOU

To all those who renewed in June and continue to support our mission of beach preservation, you make our efforts possible. Thank you!

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Type: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive email newsletters? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Oak Island Beach Preservation Society, Inc.

PO Box 183

Oak Island, NC 28465

**Do you have a friend or neighbor who is interested in joining?**  
**Please share this form with them, or use our membership QR code on page 8.**

**Our board members are all volunteers, and it is only with your support, that we can fulfill our mission.**

**Interested on serving on our board?**  
**Complete the application on our website at [beachoki.org](http://beachoki.org)**

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

\_\_\_\_\_ Beach Lover Individual.....\$ 20

\_\_\_\_\_ Beach Lover Family.....\$ 35

### Lifetime Membership—individual or family

\_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Seashore Protector.....\$ 500

\_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Island Preservationist.....\$ 1000

**Annual Business Membership.....\$ 200**

# Calendar of Events

June 15, 22, 29  
July 13

Monday OKI Farmer's Markets  
Middleton Park, 8 am to 1 pm

Tuesday, June 23, 8 am,  
70th St East Access

Beach Flash Sweep  
(watch for additional dates on our Facebook and Instagram pages)

Thursday, July 9, 1 – 2 pm

Aquarium Series, *Sea Turtle 911*

Thursday, August 13, 1 – 2 pm

Aquarium Series, *Fantastic Fish*

TBD

Fall 13-Mile Beach Cleanup

## Upcoming Staff Activities

July 7 Board Meeting at OKI Community Center  
7:00 pm

August 4 Board Meeting at OKI Community Center  
7:00 pm

*(Board meetings are open to the public)*



### CONNECT WITH US:

**Email:** [okibpsi@gmail.com](mailto:okibpsi@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** *Oak Island Beach Preservation Society, Inc.*

**Instagram:** *OKIBPSI*

**Web:** <http://beachoki.org>



Oak Island Beach Preservation Society's *THE BEACH PRESERVER*



Next Board Meeting: July 7



Oak Island Beach Preservation Society, Inc.  
PO Box 183  
Oak Island, NC 28465