



Oak Island Beach Preservation Society, Inc.

The Beach Preserver

June 2025

www.beachoki.org

Be a
Beach Lover!

BOARD of DIRECTORS

CHAIR

Cheryl Cook

CO-CHAIR

Andy Spradley

TREASURER

Bill Van Lew

SECRETARY

Rosina Whitfield

ADOPT-AN-ACCESS/ BIKE RACKS

LeeAnn Lyon

MEMBERSHIP

Emily Dickinson

SCHOLARSHIPS

Carolyn Habib

BOARD MEMBER

Mary McBride

BOARD MEMBER

Crissy Martin

CLEANUP COORDINATOR/ NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Eileen Keates

TOWN REPRESENTATIVE

Scott Thornall, Public Works

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR...

Our dedicated board members spent Saturday morning over Memorial Day weekend in a strategic planning meeting to review the events from the past year, determine what went well and what needed improvement, gather ideas for new initiatives and create a budget for our next fiscal year. It was quite a productive meeting, and we sincerely appreciate our secretary, Rosina, for hosting the meeting and providing breakfast snacks and coffee!



One of our main concerns, is getting our name out in the community. We chat with many homeowners at markets and community events, and we were surprised by how many people had no idea who we were, or what part we play in our community. We are hoping to change that, starting this year, with greater outreach and involvement with other local groups and town sponsored events.

We look forward to the upcoming year and finding new ways to support and enhance our beaches and our island community!

Wishing you all a fun-filled and safe summer!

Your Oak Island Beach Preservation Society Team



Our Mission

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

BETTER BEACH

Flash Sweeps - All Summer Long!

What is a flash sweep, you ask? It is a short 5 minute cleanup at a specific beach access. Have a few minutes to spare in the morning? Then join us in keeping our beaches pristine!

Our May 22nd flash sweep took place at the East 55th Street access. One volunteer (and his dog) joined two of our members for a quick trash pickup, and this is what they found:

19 cigarette butts, 4 food wrappers, 5 bottle caps, 1 beer can, 3 pieces of plastic, 1 piece of cardboard, and 1 onion (???)

You just never know what you might find....

Want to join us for one of our upcoming flash sweeps? Our tentative dates (weather permitting) are June 18, July 2, July 18 and August 1. Check out our Facebook page for time and location details as the days approach.

We would love to see you there!



**May 22
flash
sweep**



I'm a Beach Lover!

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

EDUCATION

Summer Educational Series with the Fort Fisher Aquarium

Mark your calendars for this year's educational series with the Fort Fisher Aquarium. These are fun, family friendly activities that the kids are sure to enjoy! Seminars are held at the Oak Island Rec Center, and there is no charge to attend, but registration is required to make sure seating will be available. Please complete your registration using the link below, or on our website at www.beachoki.org or on our [Facebook](#) page.

July 3 - Fantastic Fish

(since shark week is the following week)

What do sharks, seahorses, and eels have in common? They're all fish! Fish come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Join us as we learn the characteristics of fish and uncover some of the facts and myths of these fantastic animals with interactive activities, props, and live Ambassador Animals.

Register for the July 3 free event **Fantastic Fish** at <https://forms.gle/71GWy1cxTUZeKT858>



Oak Island Beach Preservation Society
presents
Summer Children's Lecture Series
Fantastic Fish
July 3rd
2:00-3:00pm
OKI Rec Center
Sponsored by Oak Island Beach Preservation Society
featuring the NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher



August 7 - Sea Moons

What would you need if you were going on a big adventure into the ocean? Every year, baby sea turtles hatch on North Carolina beaches and they start out on a great adventure of their own. With their big eyes to see the sights and their strong turtle instincts, they navigate the ocean until it's their time to return to the beach for nesting. Along the way, the moons of the sea help to guide them, but things aren't always what they seem. No live sea turtles are included in this presentation, though participants will get up close and personal with terrestrial or semi-aquatic turtles of NC for comparison.

EDUCATION

2025 Scholarship Winners

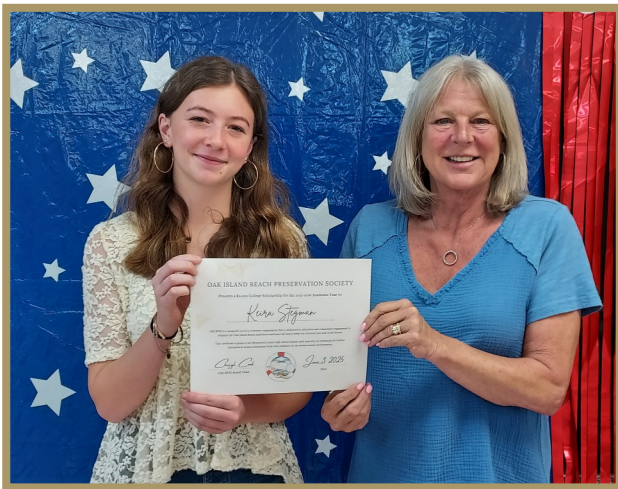
Each year, the Oak Island Beach Preservation Society awards scholarships to outstanding, college bound Brunswick county seniors. Those students are required to have a minimum GPA, and a preference is given to students following a degree program that aligns with beach and/or ocean life preservation. The winners are determined by this criteria and their written essay submission.

This year, we are pleased to announce the following scholarship winners:

Kiera Stegman, who will be attending Montreat College to study Environmental Science, and

Ruth Jefferies-McKenzie, who will be attending UNC Chapel Hill to study Biology

Congratulations!!



MEMBERSHIP

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED SERVING ON OUR BOARD??

Are you looking for a way to contribute your time to an organization that focuses on our beaches? We are looking for some one who is computer savvy and knowledgeable with website posting and social media platforms. Come to a meeting to see how we operate, or fill out the application on our website at <https://beachoki.org> **Bring your ideas - we look forward to meeting you!**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Annual Auction Wrap-Up

As most of you already know, our annual wine tasting and auction fundraiser is our biggest event of the year. The funds raised (along with membership dues) provide needed funds for our doggie boxes, doggie bags, upkeep of bicycle racks, educational signs at the Point and Kings Lynn, the children's summer series in conjunction with the Fort Fisher Aquarium, seasonal seminars, scholarships for 2 local students each year, and when funds allow, larger items to support the community.

This year, our auction raised \$15,000 (before expenses) to support our initiatives! We are thrilled to have such amazing community members who donate goods, services, and handmade art, as well as attend our annual event! Our 2025 Grape Expectations fundraiser was attended by 122 ticketed individuals and 8 OKI BPSI board members. We received approximately 130 individual items for donation (although some were grouped into baskets).

Last year, our board voted to donate funds for 3 shower towers to the Town of Oak Island. Funds would be donated for one tower per year for the next 3 years. Last year's shower tower was placed at West 30th Street, and the Town has notified us that this year's shower tower location will be at the Keziah Street access. The Town chooses the location based on need and available utility placement, which the town provides and pays for. (Thank you, Town of Oak Island!) We do not have a date for installation, but we can tell you that this parking area provides handicap access for our residents and visitors. It is your support that allows us to give back to our beloved island, for the benefit of all of our families, and for that, we **THANK YOU!!**



New 2025 shower tower location:

Keziah Street handicap access

We will let you know when the shower is installed and operational



*Last year's shower tower at
30th Place West*

MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME

Please welcome the following new members who joined our mission in May:

Mark, Donald, Lathan, Lisa & Genie



We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

THANK YOU

To all those who renewed in May, 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 the last page.

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?
Fill out the application on our website at <https://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 7	Spring Full Beach Sweep	8:00am
June 16	Farmers and Artisans Market (Mondays)	8:00am-1:00pm
June 18	Flash Sweep - East 16th	8:00am
July 1	Town of Oak Island Beach Day	All Day
July 2	Flash Sweep - West 5th	8:00am
July 3	"Fantastic Fish" Children's Lecture Series	2:00pm
July 7	Farners and Artisans Market (Mondays)	8:00am-1:00pm
July 18	Flash Sweep - West 10th	8:00am
Aug 1	Flash Sweep - East 46th (cabana)	8:00am
Aug 7	"Sea Moons" Children's Lecture Series	2:00pm

Upcoming Staff Activities



June 17	Board Meeting via zoom	7:00pm
July 15	Board Meeting via zoom	7:00pm
Aug 5	Board Meeting at OKI Community Center	7:00pm

(In person board meetings are open to the public)



June 2025 Edition

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

Next Board Meeting



is Aug 5

Membership



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