

Town of North Topsail Beach

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Nature's Tranquil Beauty

Town Staff Update
January 28, 2019

The Town of North Topsail Beach is keeping track of frequently asked questions. If we receive multiple inquiries on a subject, it is likely that the topic is of concern for many citizens, maybe even those who are not reaching out and specifically asking.

This week, the following topics were most frequently asked:

- 1) Berm Push – For a background on this topic, please refer to previous Staff Updates which are located on the Town's Administration [page](#).

Additional information: Since our last update, W.R. Willis started the sand push in our Town. Approximately one mile has been completed to date. The contractor anticipates approximately 1,000 linear feet completed each day. This is dependent upon weather and tide schedules. As a reminder, this is not a dune project. As such, residents and property owners should not expect a structure with the same dimensions as a dune. The berms will be approximately 8 feet in height. The berms are meant to be our first line of defense until the Town can rebuild the dunes.



This does not mean the Town is not working towards a dune project. A project of this magnitude requires a lot of planning- including financial considerations. The ultimate goal is to receive federal funding for a dune project at a later date.

The properties within the Town are allowed one push under the Town's permit. If you would like an additional push, you must follow NCDEQ protocol to obtain a permit for your property:

<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/coastal-management-permit-guidance/project-rules>

Finding a qualified contractor will be your responsibility.

Lastly, we urge beach visitors to use caution. If construction equipment is in the vicinity of your beach plans, please revise your plans. Not only for safety but for efficiency of process. Please, allow the operators to complete their task in a timely and safe manner.

- 2) Sea Oats- Traditionally, the Town has matched the cost of sea oats up to \$10,000. This is a program that generates a lot of excitement, and we are already receiving questions. Unfortunately, the landscape of our coast has changed. We are checking with CAMA and reevaluating the best way to proceed. The Town does not take applications until March, but we will keep everyone in the loop with the information.
- 3) Permitted Beach Driving- This will resume in February in the previously designated areas (the North end of town). If you ordered your pass and did not receive it, please contact the contractor who is managing the permits. Their number is 704-375-5143.
- 4) Although this was previously discussed in a Town Update, we have received questions regarding steps and walkways. Here is the process for that:

Owners of private property may apply to rebuild their beach accesses by first applying for a Building Permit from the Town of North Topsail Beach:

- a. Required application and documents are on the Building Inspections page of our [website](#).
 - b. Applications must include a sketch with dimensions of the proposed project
 - c. Applications must also include an estimate of how much of the beach access structure still remains as a percentage of the original structure
 - d. A CAMA permit may or may not be required, depending on if the damage to the property is categorized as repair or replacement
- 5) Updates on Requests for Bids:
- a. Repair Storm Damaged Beach Crossovers: The Town received one response. Town officials are working with FEMA & have met with their representatives on several occasions for site inspections. We hope to receive funding for this project. No decision has been made at this time.

- b. Restoration of Town Hall & Town Parks: We received materials from engineer firms. The selected engineer will assist with options for the Town building and parks. No decision has been made at this time.
- 6) We have received a lot of interest in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Here is the letter that was issued to property owners:
https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/9c187e_983d695cf4d748e4942da113e2dae2ac.pdf

If you are interested in applying, please have your applications submitted to the Town's Planning Director, Deb Hill, by the 31st. Her email address is dhill@ntbnc.org