

SHORELINES – July 2004

Summer's Here!

School is out, the weather is hot, the days are long, ice cream tastes especially good, and a lot more people are on island. All this can mean only one thing for Bogue Banks – summer has arrived! The words “summer” and “beach” are like peanut butter and jelly – you can't have one without the other. And there is no better time of the year to review the public access and parking facilities available along Bogue Banks to make for an enjoyable summer on the beach. In the next few editions of *Shorelines* we're going to include maps depicting all the beach accesses and parking areas for each community and provide a quick narrative summarizing each communities approach to furnishing and maintaining these facilities. So for the next few months we'll be short on words and long on graphics.

We're actually going to start towards the middle of the island by highlighting three new access/parking facilities that should be well on their way to completion as you are reading this issue of the Island Review, and include from west to east; (1) An access/parking area located immediately east of the Baptist Children's Home oceanfront gazebo, (2) A walkway located between the Ocean Club and Salter Path Campground with parking located north of Hwy 58, and (3)) The Sea Isle Plantation west access with parking located north of Hwy 58. One of the requirements associated with Federal participation in beach nourishment is that access and parking to the beaches shall be provided to everyone on fair and equal terms. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulations and guidance concerning this issue stipulate that an access shall be located every half mile with adequate parking associated with each access (approximately 10 spaces). The new facilities help fulfill the obligations associated with the recently completed Outer Harbor Section 933 beach nourishment project. These new facilities will help augment the very popular Roosevelt State Park facility in Salter Path and the Indian Beach 4WD Ramp Access.

To the east of Indian Beach is another success story. Three years ago there were no access and parking facilities in Pine Knoll Shores (PKS). Today there are five that took some very heavy lifting from a legal standpoint before the purchase or lease of land and construction of the sites even took place. The Roosevelt heirs, who at one time owned most of PKS, employed restrictive covenants and “reversion” clauses that included strict prohibitions regarding public use of any properties. To make a long and complex story short, six Roosevelt heirs and two trusts scattered throughout the Country signed documents to lift these restrictions.

PKS, a perennial recipient of the National Arbor Day Association's Tree City USA Award, is extremely conscious of the maritime forest and did a superlative job in keeping as much of this resource intact at each access. The entrances for most of the accesses almost “blend in” with the live oaks and dense forest cover, so keep an eye out for the familiar blue and orange public access CAMA signs. Next month: Fort Macon and Atlantic Beach.

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BEACH PARKING & ACCESS LOCATION MAP INDIAN BEACH, SALTER PATH, PINE KNOLL SHORES Bogue Banks, Carteret County

