



Town of Hilton Head Island TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

An Update from Town Manager Steve Riley 10/19/2020

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

It's a beautiful fall day and we're hope you're enjoying it. Here's an update on what's happening around Town:

New Decal Applications for Convenience Centers Available Starting Today

Starting today, October 19th, residents will be able to apply for a decal for the Beaufort County Convenience Center, aka the trash dump, using the online form at www.beaufortcountysc.gov/SWRDecal. Applications will also be available at all County convenience centers for Beaufort County residents to fill out. The County recently announced the decal system as a way to prevent out-of-county abuse of the waste collection locations. One decal will be issued per Beaufort County property owner. In addition to the physical copy, residents will receive a digital copy that will allow them to have it on their phone and for other members of their household if they are using a different vehicle. Decals will be required beginning January 1, 2021. For questions, call the Beaufort County Solid Waste and Recycling Department at 843-255-2930.

We're Dying to Know Your Thoughts

Our Virtual Town Halls for our Parks & Recreation Master Plan starts today. We're hosting three sessions where you can give your input on parks and recreation. The first is at 5 p.m. today. The second session is 10 a.m. Friday, October 23 and the third session is 2 p.m. Wednesday, October 28. You will need to register for these sessions. Our staff will present information, conduct live polling and answer your questions. To register, visit hiltonheadislandsc.gov and click on parks and recreation master plan listed under our major initiatives or hot topics section of our website homepage. Your input will help us envision what improvements should happen at our parks and what recreation opportunities we should consider providing for Town residents. You can also complete a survey and give us feedback on what you'd like to see for parks and recreation through this master planning process. The survey is available via our Open Town Hall portal on our website at hiltonheadislandsc.gov.

Round Two of ATAX Presentations Set for Thursday, October 22

Round Two of presentations for accommodations tax funding is set for 9 a.m., Thursday, October 22. Fifteen local entities will present their case for funding before the ATAX Committee. Last week, the committee heard from 14 organizations. In total, these organizations have requested \$4,066,535 in funding. Following these presentations, the ATAX committee will be tasked with determining which organizations receive funding and how much. Their recommendations will be sent to the Town Council for final consideration.



Town of Hilton Head Island TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

and approval. The agenda for the October 22 virtual meeting is available on the Town's website at hiltonheadislandsc.gov. You can submit public comments concerning this Thursday's agenda items through our Open Town Hall portal. The portal will close at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 21. Citizens may also call (843) 341-4646 to sign up for public comment participation during the meeting by phone. You must sign up for this option by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 21. All comments will be provided to the Committee for review and made part of the official record. The meeting can be viewed on the Town's public meeting Facebook page. We want to thank the ATAX Committee members for their service and commitment to the review process and time spent making decisions.

ArborNature Transfer Station Public Hearing Reminder

As a reminder, DHEC will hold a public hearing teleconference (by phone only) on October 22, 2020, to accept oral comments on the draft permit for the ArborNature Transfer Station in Hilton Head Island, Beaufort County. DHEC has updated the ArborNature page on its website (scdhec.gov/arbournature) with a [pre-recorded presentation](#) and [public hearing procedures](#). Anyone who plans to make a comment during the public hearing is encouraged to review these materials prior to October 22, 2020. Anyone who plans to join the public hearing teleconference should complete the online registration form on the website.

Current Business Capacity During COVID-19

We have had a few phone calls for non-restaurant business owners wondering about limitations on capacity at their place of business. We reached out to the Governor's office, which recently lifted restrictions allowing restaurants to operate at full capacity. Aside from the 250 person gathering rule, [which is explained here](#), there are no capacity restrictions in place at specific businesses. We of course want patrons at local businesses to continue following precautions to help limit the spread of the coronavirus: wear a face covering, wash/sanitize your hands and stay six feet apart. Businesses can find other guidelines and resources on dealing with COVID-19 on the following websites:

AccelerateSC

<https://accelerate.sc.gov/guidelines>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html>

S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control

<https://business.stayscstrong.com/>

The Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Path Forward

<https://www.hiltonheadisland.org/thepathforward>



Town of Hilton Head Island **TOWN MANAGER UPDATE**

Help With CARES Act Funds for Minority and Small Businesses, Nonprofits

With Governor Henry McMaster's launch of the Minority and Small Business Relief and Nonprofit Relief grant programs through the CARES Act, there are probably many questions. The Lowcountry SCORE Chapter and the Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce have partnered to offer daily in-person application assistance at the chamber office as well as wifi, laptops and office support from 10 a.m.-noon beginning today, Monday, October 19 through Friday, October 30. No appointment is needed. Space has been set up to allow for safe social distancing. Zoom meetings can be set up, upon request. [Click here](#) for information about the S.C. CARES Grants for small and minority-owned businesses, and [here](#) for non-profits. For information call or email Hannah Horne, the chamber's vice president of policy & programs, at 843-341-8373, hhorne@hiltonheadisland.org.

Free COVID-19 Tests

Testing for COVID-19 is essential because it helps identify people who are infected with the virus, whether they have symptoms or not. If you are out and about in the community, around others, or not able to socially distance or wear a mask, SCDHEC recommends that you get tested at least once a month. Hilton Head Hospital and its sister facility, Coastal Carolina Hospital in Hardeeville, continues to provide free COVID-19 drive-thru testing from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday thru Friday. You do not need an appointment or a physician's order.

COVID-19 Cases in our Community

The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control releases daily updates to keep the community apprised of the number of coronavirus cases learning of after testing and the number deaths resulting from COVID-19 symptoms. For the latest figures related to COVID-19 on Hilton Head Island, our County and our state, please visit www.scdhec.gov or the Town's COVID-19 hub page at www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19.