



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

**An Update from Deputy Town Manager Shawn Colin
2/4/2021**

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

Here's an update on what's happening around Town:

South Carolinians Aged 65 and Older Can Schedule COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments Beginning Monday, February 8

Beginning Monday, February 8, any South Carolina resident aged 65 or older, regardless of health status or preexisting conditions, can begin scheduling their appointment to receive COVID-19 vaccine.

What to know:

- The risk for severe illness from COVID-19 increases with age, with older adults at the highest risk.
- Residents will be asked to provide a driver's license or other form of ID at their appointment that confirms their age and, therefore, their eligibility to receive vaccine.
- South Carolinians eligible to receive vaccine can schedule an appointment at a location accepting COVID-19 vaccine appointments. The scdhec.gov/vaxlocator can be used to find those locations and get contact information for scheduling appointments at those locations. People can also call [DHEC's COVID-19 Vaccine Information Line](https://scdhec.gov/covid-19-vaccine-information-line) at 1-866-365-8110 for help finding vaccine providers and their contact information to schedule an appointment.
- COVID-19 is still at high levels in South Carolina. Wear a face mask, stay six feet away from others, avoid crowds, and get tested often.

Get Help Scheduling a COVID-19 Vaccine Shot

Local residents who are 70 and older and do not have an email address or a device to connect to the internet in order to register for a COVID-19 vaccine shot can get help with the registration process. Members of the Hilton Head Computer Club and Hilton Head Regional Healthcare will be available from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, February 5 and Tuesday, February 9, at the Hilton Head Island Senior Center, 70 Shelter Cove Lane, to assist you. Please call 843-842-4475 weekdays between 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to schedule a time for help with the registration process.

Town Council's Public Planning Committee Passes Ordinance to Help Protect Sea Turtles

On Wednesday, Town Council's Public Planning Committee passed an Ordinance that updates the Town's existing Sea Turtle Protection standards. The standards help reduce the number of sea turtle hatchling misorientations caused by artificial light. The revised



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Ordinance requires all indoor and outdoor light fixtures that are visible from the beach to be shielded so the bulbs are not visible or turned off between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. during sea turtle nesting season from May 1 – October 31. It also requires all windows and glass doors in new structures to have sea turtle friendly tinting. The full Town Council will now consider the Ordinance for approval. If passed, the Ordinance will take effect on May 1, 2021. Staff will work with all relevant parties to voluntarily bring properties into compliance with the new requirements. Staff has been working on refining this Ordinance for months. We appreciate all the input local citizens and sea turtle advocates have shared with our Town Council and our staff.

Fire Rescue Seeks Your Input on How Best to Communicate with You

Which type of media do you prefer to use when obtaining local information and which media outlets do you use to receive information specifically from the Town of Hilton Head Island? Our Fire Rescue Division wants to know and asks for your response on a communications survey. The survey is available through our Open Town portal on our website at hiltonheadislandsc.gov. The survey is available through May 31, 2021. Results of the survey will be used to help Fire Rescue determine the best methods for communicating with our citizens and visitors.

Beaufort County Electronics Recycling Events

The Beaufort County Department of Solid Waste and Recycling will host free electronics recycling events for County residents from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, February 6, at Beaufort County Public Works on 9 Benton Field Road in Bluffton, and on 140 Shanklin Road in Beaufort. Per COVID-19, please STAY IN YOUR CAR during the event. Staff will unload electronics and will use personal protection equipment (masks and gloves). Any personal computers, laptops, CRT monitors, LCD monitors, CRT televisions, non-CRT televisions, printers, hard drives and miscellaneous electronics (microwaves, cell phones, radios, fax machines and typewriters) will be accepted.

If you have questions about Beaufort County recycling events, please call the Solid Waste and Recycling Office at 843-255-2736 or visit the Solid Waste and Recycling website at www.beaufortcountysc.gov/recycle.

Individual Income Tax Season Opens February 12

The South Carolina Department of Revenue (SCDOR) will begin accepting Individual Income Tax returns for tax year 2020 on February 12, 2021, consistent with the date **announced by the IRS**. According to the **IRS**, the February 12 start date "allows the IRS time to do additional programming and testing of IRS systems following the December 27 tax law changes." The SCDOR adopts the IRS date since South Carolina Income Tax returns use information from federal returns.



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