



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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Media Contact: Chad Ray  
*Media & Communication Specialist*  
Chad\_Ray@onslowcountync.gov  
(910) 989-3907

### PUBLIC NOTICE: ONSLOW COUNTY BEACH ACCESSES

**Onslow County, N.C.** – Onslow County Government continues to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 and to work toward reopening our community.

- During this pandemic, Onslow County has never closed its public parks, other than the playground equipment as directed by the Executive Orders from the State of North Carolina. Executive Order 138 encourages parks and trails to be open, and for citizens to be outdoors, maintaining social distancing.
- **Onslow County owns and maintains beach accesses and several parking lots within North Topsail Beach, and announces today that in conjunction with decisions made during the North Topsail Beach emergency meeting yesterday, Onslow County will open the following two parking lots and beach accesses effective Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>:**
  - **Beach Access 1 – 1795 New River Inlet Road (ramp, walkway, restrooms, showers, 30 vehicle parking lot)**
  - **Beach Access 2 – 2950 Island Drive (ramp, restrooms, showers, parking for 250 vehicles)**

**These beach accesses are open from – 8 AM to 8 PM daily, seven days a week.**

Beach Access 4 at 484 New River Inlet Road was heavily damaged during Hurricane Florence. The County has now secured the required environmental and other approvals to make the needed repairs. As a result, Beach Access 4 is an active construction project and will not open at this time. The construction is scheduled to be completed within 90 days, and includes repairs to the pavilion, restrooms, and the adjacent dune. During the period of active construction, the parking lot and construction areas will be cordoned off and closed to the public. Please do not enter onto the Beach Access 4 property and do not walk across this area, because it is unsafe until the construction is complete.

- **Onslow County also announces that the Onslow Board of Commissioners is pleased to promote free parking at all of the County-owned parking facilities in North Topsail Beach, and the County has no plans to change the status of free parking in the parking areas owned by the County.**

Onslow County taxes pay for 2 full-time County staff members, who along with assistance from other staff, maintain and pick up trash at Beach Accesses 1, 2, and 4 and at each of the 13 crossovers that the County owns,

at 2nd Street, 5th Street, 7th Street, 9th Street, 11th Street, 13th Street, 15th Street, 18th Street, 21st Street, 23rd Street, Reed Street, Thompson Street, and Chestnut Street in North Topsail Beach. The County also pays for dumpsters at Beach Accesses 2 and 4, and maintains the public restrooms at Beach Accesses 1, 2, and 4. In the past, the County has also contributed substantial funds for other beach maintenance projects.

We encourage citizens to make use of the beach for exercise, while strictly maintaining social distancing and all CDC recommended precautions. The Citizens' Phone Bank remains open from 8 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, for Citizens who have questions about the impact of COVID-19 in Onslow County at 910-989-5027.

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