



Bald Head Association

July/August 2025

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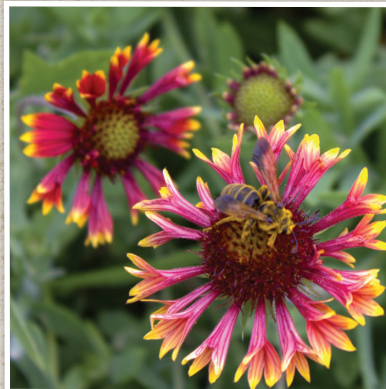
Island Report

Communication, Advocacy and Protection of BHI Property Values

The Power of Pollinators, Planting, and People *RCB Committee Leads the Way*

*T*his spring, the BHA Resource Conservation and Beautification Committee hit the ground running thanks in large part to our amazing volunteers.


We kicked off the season with our Litter Sweep, where about 30 neighbors came out to help clean up our beaches and other shared spaces. Their efforts made a visible difference, and we're already looking ahead to another successful sweep this October. Stay tuned for more details!



In addition to the cleanup, the committee focused on refreshing the Marina Park Pollinator Garden. With 136 new perennials replacing winter losses and 30 annuals added to reduce weeding and fill in gaps, the garden is now home to 29 thriving plant species. We're keeping a close eye on how each species performs to identify the most hardy and deer-resistant varieties for the long term. A special thanks goes to the Village for the upgraded irrigation system installed last fall. It's already making a big difference.

As part of our Bee City USA partnership, we joined in the Earth Day celebration, which drew more than 150 visitors. Kids had a blast painting pots at the Conservancy table, then picked up milkweed seeds. Some kids were able to plant their seeds directly in the Pollinator Garden, while others took them home to start their own pollinator-friendly habitats thanks to a soil donation from the Hardware Store.

Looking ahead, Operation ReForest will resume this fall with tree orders beginning in October and planting scheduled for mid-November. It's a great way to contribute to our community's long-term beauty and environmental health.

Thanks again to everyone who's lending a hand and a shovel to keep our neighborhood blooming, clean, and green. 



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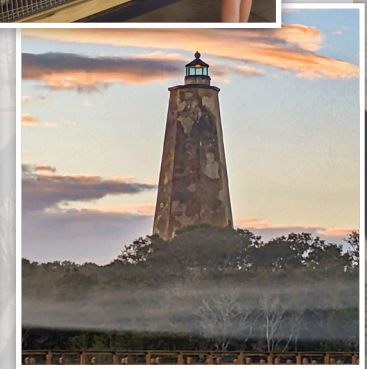
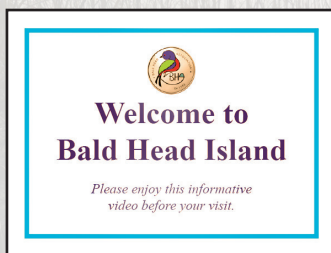
By Christine Osborne, BHA President

With the arrival of summer, Bald Head Island is once again welcoming an increasing number of visitors to our beautiful community. As always, our top priority is ensuring the safety and enjoyment of everyone who lives on and visits the Island.

To help promote a safe and respectful environment, I've partnered with Bald Head Island Limited to produce a short safety video, beginning with the ferry boarding experience. The video highlights essential information on topics such as golf cart regulations, bicycle and pedestrian safety, beach access and water safety, turtle and beach preservation, the importance of not feeding wildlife, and many other important safety precautions. Whether you're a longtime resident or a first-time visitor, these reminders are vital to maintaining the well-being of our community and the unique character of Bald Head Island.

I encourage all residents and guests to take a few minutes to watch the video and share it with family members, renters, and visitors. You can view the video on our website here: BaldHeadAssociation.com or scan the accompanying QR code.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Have a wonderful and safe summer!



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Editorial Policy

Letters to the Editor and articles written by property owners about BHI issues and experiences are encouraged, subject to the Content Approval

guideline as well as the following space guidelines:

(1) The maximum length of a letter for publication in the *Island Report* will be 250 words. This limit will be strictly enforced. If the article or letter exceeds that length, the contributor may be granted more space by the Communications Manager or Executive Director, if appropriate. (2) Any individual will be limited to one letter every six months. BHA reserves the right to edit letters in the interests of accuracy and civility or to publish a letter as written, followed by a correction by the editor. In the interest of covering diverse topics and opinions, BHA reserves the right to select among submissions for publication. Deadlines are the 1st of the month for the following month's issue.

Your Island. Your Voice. Your Board.


Serving as a BHA board member is a meaningful way to make a positive impact on our community. Board members play a vital role in preserving property values, maintaining common areas, and ensuring Bald Head Island remains a desirable place to live and play. There are two positions open each year.

As a board member, you'll have the opportunity to shape important decisions. You'll gain insight into how BHA operates and help ensure transparency, fairness, and accountability in the process.

Beyond the practical benefits, board service offers a chance to connect with neighbors and bring fresh ideas to the table. Whether your strengths lie in finance, communication, organization, or problem-solving, there's a place for your talents on the board.

Board members also lead or participate in committees. That's where the real fun happens! Want to help plan community events, guide design standards, or dive into island infrastructure? There's a committee for that, and your leadership could help bring new energy and innovation to the group.

The role requires a time commitment of approximately 5-10 hours a month. You'll attend monthly board meetings and serve on at least one committee. The position also offers the reward of making your community stronger, safer, and more inclusive. If you care about our Island and want to be part of its success, consider stepping up.

Your voice matters. Your involvement matters. Join the board and help shape the future of Bald Head Island. 

Got Opinions? Put Them to Good Use/Join the BHA Board of Directors!

These are the things you need to know.

08/04/25

SUBMIT

Submit your resume to
Nominating Committee
Chair Steve Smalley

SSmalley@BaldHeadAssociation.com

12/02/25

SELF-NOMINATE

Submit a petition signed by a
minimum of fifteen (15) individual
property owners to ED Doug Jones

Doug@BaldHeadAssociation.com

12/??/2025

CANDIDATE FORUM

Participate in a candidate
forum on a date to be
determined

01/31/26

ANNUAL MEETING

Election of new
Board members



ARTICLE V

BHA bylaws offer two ways to
two ways to be considered for
Board service - scan code

BHA — Contributing Articles and Photos

The *Island Report* is your source for BHA news and information. Help make it the best it can be by sending your article ideas and/or photos to Kim@BaldHeadAssociation.com.



Photo by John Fisher.

Gather, Laugh, Repeat: Community Moments That Matter *ER Committee in Action*

From potluck dinners to park picnics, the Education and Recreation Committee has been serving up a year full of fun, learning, and community spirit. And they're just getting started!

The festivities kicked off in January with the first in a series of monthly potlucks, where neighbors came together to share a meal and some creativity. The No Boundaries Artists joined the fun, showcasing the incredible artwork they created right here on the Island. Since then, each month has brought something new: from an eye-opening presentation by the Public Safety Department to Bingo nights and a music-filled Picnic in the Park.

And let's not forget the seasonal highlights! The committee lent a helping hand during Earth Day celebrations and kept the tradition going strong with the much-loved Easter Egg Hunt, putting smiles on lots of little faces (and a few big ones too).

The committee will be taking a well-earned hiatus in July and August, but don't worry, more great events are in the works for fall. So keep an eye out, dust off your casserole dishes, and get ready to gather again soon.

Because around here we don't just build community, we celebrate it! 🌿





Ask ARC before any work begins!

- Planning a renovation project or new construction?
- Wanting to change outdoor lighting or fixtures?
- Thinking about cutting/trimming trees or vegetation?
- Considering any landscape changes?

To Set an Appointment:

Please email Chris Howard, ARC Coordinator, at Chris@BaldHeadAssociation.com.
For all questions about trees and vegetation, email Trees@BaldHeadAssociation.com.

Architectural Review Committee Fully Staffed and Ready to Serve


The BHA is excited to announce that the Architectural Review Committee is now fully staffed and operating at full capacity! This marks an important milestone in ensuring timely and efficient support for all architectural requests and community standards.

At the end of last year, Maura Wild and Allison Heafner joined the team as ARC Specialist and ARC Administrative Assistant, respectively. Both have quickly mastered their roles and are already making valuable contributions.

We're also pleased to welcome back a familiar face. Chris Howard has returned to BHA as the new ARC Coordinator. Her experience and insight are a great asset to the team.

Joining most recently is Madison Baughman, our newest ARC Assistant, completing the team with fresh energy and perspective.

Additionally, we're fortunate to have Tiffany Williams and David Wray continuing chairing ARC Sections A & B. Their experience and steady guidance remain vital to the committee's success.

Please join us in welcoming (and welcoming back!) these dedicated professionals. We look forward to the continued excellence they will bring to the ARC and to our Island. 



Left to right: Tiffany Williams & David Wray, ARC Section A & B Chairs; Chris Howard, ARC Coordinator; Allison Heafner, ARC Admin, Madison Baughman, Admin Assistant; Maura Wild, ARC Specialist

Building Smart, Living Green: How We Keep Bald Head Island Thriving

Let's face it, Bald Head Island isn't your average beachfront neighborhood. It's a rare place where the trees lean with the wind like they've been doing for centuries, wildlife roams like it owns the place (because, well, it does), and the marshes, dunes, and maritime forest move in a natural rhythm that's as complex as it is beautiful.

This stunning barrier island is a living, breathing ecosystem. And if you're lucky enough to own property here, you're part of the team keeping it that way. That's where the Bald Head Association's Design Guidelines come in. This handy rulebook helps us make sure we're all doing our part to protect what makes this place so special.

Before you roll your eyes at "Guidelines," consider this: they're here to protect the Island's natural character, your property values, and the delicate balance of life that's been thriving here long before any of us showed up.


For example, impervious surfaces is not banned, just limited. Because when it rains, water needs to go somewhere besides your crawlspace. Then there's tree preservation, not just because they're beautiful, but because they act as windbreaks, erosion control, shade providers, and critical

habitat for all kinds of creatures.

As for landscaping, the ARC recommends at least 70% native plants. Native species thrive here without extra water or care. They support the Island's natural systems better than imports ever could.

Lighting is also key. If you're oceanfront, you're sharing space with nesting sea turtles. From May to November, hatchlings use moonlight to reach the ocean. Excessive lighting sends them in the wrong direction, sometimes with tragic results. The Guidelines aim to keep those lights low and shielded for a reason.

Plus, the homes themselves are designed to work *with* the environment, not against it. Deep porches, operable shutters, and steep roof pitches aren't just charming, they are all smart, low-impact choices that make sense here.

With over half the Island's properties changing hands since 2018, there are plenty of new faces, and even longtime owners can use a quick refresher. Whether you're building, renovating, or updating your landscape, a quick look at the Design Guidelines helps ensure your project fits in and supports the Island we all love. 



Navigational Aids — Part 2

By Jake Grossman, Educator and Collections Coordinator, Old Baldy Foundation

Welcome back to our cruise down the Cape Fear River checking out the navigational aids along the way. We left off discussing the superhuman effort to close off the New Inlet and make the Federal Point lighthouse redundant. Now we will continue steaming southbound to pass the first light ship we've seen so far, the Horseshoe Shoal lightship.

The Horseshoe Shoal lightship warned mariners away from the Horseshoe Shoals from 1851-1868ish. A lightship is precisely as it sounds—a lighthouse on a boat. You may be familiar with the iconic Frying Pan Shoals lightship that was moored at the tip of the shoals for about 100 years.¹ Nonetheless, the Horseshoe Shoal lightship was likely sunk during or shortly after the American Civil War. Deputy State Underwater Archeologist Stephen Atkinson informed me that

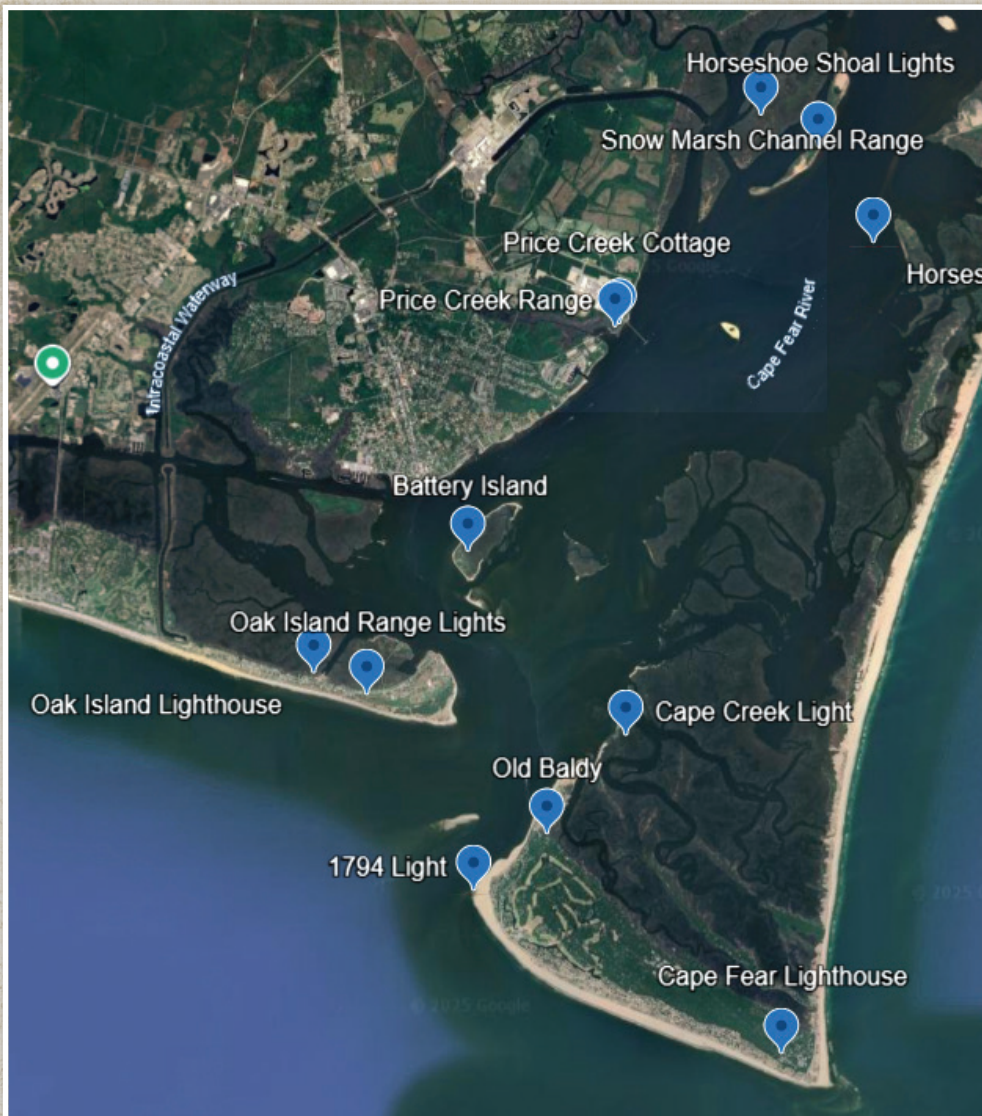
the department did a couple surveys for the remains of the Horseshoe Shoal lightship in the 80s, yet, no effort since then. Meanwhile, above the water the lightship was replaced by a lighthouse sometime in the 1860s. The structure did not last long, however, as it was

“as far as practicable, removed and placed in store at Newbern, North Carolina” in 1868. Towards the late 19th century dredging and

natural shifting of the marsh pushed the channel eastwards and away from the Horseshoe Shoals making any navigational aid unnecessary. Nonetheless, towards the channel and then out to the Atlantic there were a plethora of small range and river lights along the lower Cape Fear.

There were at least six navigational aids from Price Creek out to the Atlantic. The smallest were the river lights at Cape Creek and Battery Island. Meanwhile, there were range lights at Snow Marsh, Price Creek, Oak Island, and on Bald Head. Price Creek we may be familiar with as one of the structures survives today. Price Creek range lights were first lit in 1850. One structure was a house with a light on top of it, while the other was a small tower with a light atop. Sailors heading into the





river would align the two lights to safely navigate the channel. Tragedy struck the family of keeper Hanson Ruark in 1868. His son Robert M. Ruark died in the lighthouse when the stairs gave way and “he plummeted to the bottom of the tower. Robert died about thirty minutes later as a result of a piece of timber that struck near his heart.” Although decommissioned in 1868, the foundation of the house, and what remains of the tower, are still visible today. You can see Price Creek clearly as you enter Deep Point on the ferry off the right. Unfortunately, the remains are located on private ground and are not open to the public.² Not too distant from Price Creek was another set of range lights on Oak Island.

The Oak Island range lights guided sailors across the western sandbars and into the Cape Fear River from 1834-1894. Erosion throughout the late 19th century negated the importance of the Oak Island range lights. Finally, a hurricane in 1893 damaged the structures to the extent it was deemed not worth rebuilding them.³ Across the river from the Oak Island is the final aid along

the Cape Fear, and one that we’ve discussed in length before, Old Baldy! Old Baldy guided sailors into the River along the Eastern the bar, and bade sailors farewell as they set off to sea. Similarly, I will say farewell to this article and see you next time.

¹ The Frying Pan Lightship was replaced by the Frying Pan Tower. The last rendition of the Frying Pan Lightship was repurposed into a restaurant that is now floating on the East River in New York City. The Frying Pan Tower is still out past the shoals yet is no longer an official aid to navigation.

² ADM is a citric acid factory that owns the land. There is some progress, however, as ADM brought a group from the Southport Historical Society to visit Price Creek in March.

³ Also during that hurricane John Watts and the Cape Fear Life Saving Station crew had a 12 hour long rescue of 8 sailors from the *Charles C. Dame* that ran aground on the Frying Pan Shoals.

Taking “The What If’s” Out of Visiting Bald Head Island

By Brandy Munroe, Bald Head Island Services

Many visitors sometimes wonder about the conveniences available on Bald Head Island. We understand you might think, “What if...?” Rest assured, the Island offers a wonderful array of services to make your stay comfortable and stress-free. While it’s true we might not have every single amenity of the mainland, we have just what you need!

For your peace of mind, Public Safety, including medical and fire services, is available 24/7 right here on the island.

Need a little extra help once you arrive? If you find yourself short on time for grocery shopping, need a golf cart picked up, or encounter any ferry-related issues, our dedicated island staff is ready to assist! BHI Delivery can take care of your grocery needs, run errands for you, and even help with your golf cart.

Running behind and concerned about the ferry? You can always reach out to Sea Tow or our own Captain Jules (owner of Jules Salty Grub and Island Pub) for assistance.

Forgot your favorite drinks? The Tippy Toad Gift Shop and Distillery offers a great selection right here on Bald Head Island.

When it comes to dining, you’ll find plenty of delicious options. Enjoy meals

at Jules, Boathouse, Will O’ the Wisp, Sandpiper Coffee, Midway Coffee, Jailhouse, The Maritime Market, The BHI and Shoals Club, with even more choices on the way!

Beyond the essentials, there are many opportunities for adventure and relaxation. Explore the Island with our unique shops, take leisurely bike or golf cart rides, or paddle a kayak. You can also enjoy the beauty of the maritime forest or book a fishing charter.

Don’t forget your furry family members! Bald Head Island is very pet-friendly. Imagine their joy on a golf cart ride, a visit to the dog park, enjoying a pup cup from Sandpiper Coffee, or simply relaxing on the porch with you.

We all look forward to welcoming our visitors to Bald Head Island and ensuring you have a truly relaxing and enjoyable experience!



“The Year of Sinbad” — Pirate Invasion Celebrates a Legendary Life

By Sandy Kades

Join us in celebrating the 2025 Bald Head Island Pirate Invasion as we honor the legendary Captain Horatio Sinbad. He passed on April 1st aboard his beloved *Meka II*, but his spirit lives on in every cannon blast and sea breeze. Though his loss hit hard, we knew he’d want us to carry on and that’s exactly what we’re doing. This year’s event is proudly named “The Year of Sinbad.”

Many of you remember Sinbad sailing into our harbor, cannons booming during the sea battle. But his pirate story began early—at age eight, inspired by *Treasure Island*, he built his first boat by 11 and ran away to sea at 16. After surviving a hurricane shipwreck, he built the 20-ton *Meka II* in his Michigan backyard and went on to live aboard for 57 years, sailing over 65,000 miles with his wife and 1st Lieutenant, Terry Brown. He raised his family on the water, ran the Beaufort Pirate Invasion for over 40 years, wrote books, made films, taught sailing, and held an official Letter of Marque signed by President Reagan.

This year, we celebrate his adventurous legacy with a full weekend of pirate fun. Be on watch for arriving ships on Friday! On Saturday, explore the encampment, enjoy pirate songs and sea shanties, and catch sword fighting demonstrations. The epic sea battle kicks off at 3:00pm at Beach Access #5, followed by a lively party with the pirates and a ghost walk after dark. On Sunday morning, enjoy breakfast with the pirates before we sail off into another year of mischief and memory.

Captain Sinbad’s motto was simple: “Carry On.” And that’s what we’ll do, raising our flags high in his honor August 1st through 3rd. Don’t miss it!



Captain Horatio Sinbad.



**VILLAGE
CHAPEL**
of Bald Head Island

Village Chapel of BHI Updates

By Mary Mears, Village Chapel of BHI Board President

The Chapel is pleased to announce that the Reverend Ken Chester will be filling the position of Island Chaplain. While this is not a new arrangement, this presence on our Island has been empty for the last two years or so. What is new is that this will be an enhanced role; we want to make the

Island Chaplain more available to more islanders, to our other island organizations, to our visitors, employees and contractors — to anyone who may need spiritual assistance from someone who is just a telephone call away. Reverend Chester and his wife Carolyn were recently introduced to worshippers at our May 25th services. If you see Reverend Chester out and about, please don't hesitate to say hello. If you'd like to speak to him directly, he may be reached by calling 336-314-9368 or emailing him at kchesterpl@gmail.com.


In keeping with the Chapel's expanded Outreach and Programming initiatives, plan to attend or participate in the following:

June 15th Giving Sunday — contributions will be collected during the two Sunday services to benefit StreetReach. An additional event will be held on June 19th from 5:00-6:00pm at Jules Salty Grub and Island Pub to benefit StreetReach. The goal this year is to raise funds to support a food truck for the homeless as well as for sending prisoners' children to a Christian based summer camp. Check out our Facebook page and other Island communications for more information as these events approach.

July 4th — we're again making the Courtyard available for the holiday parade viewing. Enjoy the shade, some cold water and American flags that volunteers will be distributing. Don't forget a chair and some bug spray!

Calling all high school students! The Chapel is very excited about its SummerLife program taking place from July 7th through July 10th and July 14th through July 17th. It's a fantastic opportunity to connect with your friends for games, cookouts, scavenger hunts, pool activities and more. Additional information can be found under the Resources/Events tab on the Chapel's website, villagechapelofbaldheadisland.org.

July 20th Giving Sunday — will be supporting Matthew's Ministry. Please consider supporting this worthwhile organization with local roots at one of our two Sunday services.

July 20th — The Chapel Board of Trustees will be conducting its regular quarterly meeting via Zoom following the second service. More details will be released as this date approaches. 




Reverend Ken Chester and his wife Carolyn.

Rip Currents

Rip currents are strong, narrow currents that flow away from the beach. Known as "rivers of the sea" that can sweep you off your feet in ankle-deep water, these localized currents can carry unsuspecting swimmers farther out to sea, at rates of 1-2 feet per second and up to 8 feet per second (the speed of an Olympic freestyle swimmer) and are generally no more than 80 feet wide.

If you get pulled farther from shore, DO NOT PANIC. Though your instinct will want you to swim back toward shore, DO NOT do this — that action puts you at risk of drowning because of fatigue. Experts recommend not to fight it and to

swim parallel to shore until you are out of the channel of current. Then swim back to land at an angle. Conserve energy when necessary — float on your back or tread water. The important thing to remember is to RELAX until you are ready to swim parallel to shore.

Check the Facebook pages for BHI Public Safety and the Village of BHI for timely alerts, reminders and information, including weather and surf zone cautions. 



Village of BHI
Facebook Page



Village of Bald Head Island Updates

By Carin Faulkner, Village Public Information Officer

The Village of Bald Head Island participates in the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System (CRS). The CRS is a voluntary program for recognizing and encouraging community floodplain management activities exceeding NFIP standards. Participating in the program can result in the reduction of flood insurance premiums, reduction of flood damage to property, strengthens and supports the insurance aspects of the NFIP, and encourages a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

The Village remains at a Class 7 rating. This means all Federal flood insurance policyholders on Bald Head Island are eligible for a 5-15 percent discount on their NFIP premiums. This information has been sent to all Write Your Own (WYO) Principal Coordinators and National Flood Insurance Program Direct Servicing Agents. Since this is a fairly new designation for BHI, you may want to follow up with your insurance agent to make sure that the discount is applied at renewal.

One of the CRS activities that the Village has implemented since participating in the CRS is the Program for Public Information (PPI). Including the following flood information in this issue of the *Island Report* is one of the Village's public information initiatives. Additionally, all of the information below is available on the Village's website at <https://villagebhi.org/residents-owners/learn-about/flood-protection/> along with several downloadable brochures.

HISTORY OF FLOODING IN BALD HEAD ISLAND

The Village of Bald Head Island is bordered by the Cape Fear River on the west and the Atlantic Ocean on the South and East. To the north, the Village is bordered by wetlands in the Bald Head Island State Natural Area.

Flooding in Bald Head Island may be the result of thunderstorm events or heavy rain. Due to its vulnerable coastal location, the Village is also susceptible to flood impacts from hurricanes, such as those experienced during Hurricane Florence, as well as coastal wave action, beach dune erosion, high tide flooding, and sea-level rise.

BEING PREPARED IS YOUR BEST DEFENSE AGAINST A FLOOD. HOW DO YOU PREPARE FOR A FLOOD?

STEP 1 – KNOW YOUR FLOOD HAZARD

Regulated floodplains are illustrated on inundation maps called Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). FIRMs are the official maps for a community on which FEMA has delineated the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs), which represent the areas subject to inundation by the 1-percent-annual chance flood event. On average, structures located within the SFHA have a 26-percent chance of flooding during the life of a standard 30-year mortgage.

You can view flood risk information for your property online at the North Carolina Flood Risk Information Center portal (<http://fris.nc.gov>). You can also contact the Development Services Director at 910-457-9700.

Properties located outside of the SFHA are not guaranteed to be safe from flooding.

STEP 2 – INSURE YOUR PROPERTY

Flooding is not covered by a standard homeowner's insurance policy. Bald Head Island participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which makes federally backed flood insurance available for all structures in the Village regardless of whether or not they are located within a SFHA. Coverage is available for the building itself as well as its contents. Renters are highly encouraged to purchase flood insurance for their contents. Note that there is a 30-day waiting period before coverage goes into effect. That means now is the best time to buy flood insurance!

Contact your local insurance agency for more information. Additional information can be found online at www.floodsmart.gov or by calling 1-888-379-9531.

STEP 3 – PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY

Tune-in to local commercial radio or television stations (WHQR 91.3 FM, WAAV 980 AM) or NOAA weather radio frequencies (162.550). Purchase a Weather Alert Radio to stay informed of changing conditions. Look for and adhere to all posted warnings.

Sign up for the Village's emergency notifications (Code Red) at the following link: <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/240B9BE6CD71>.

If your property is in imminent danger of flooding, contact your utility provider to request that your power or natural gas be shut off or for guidance on how to do it yourself.

Avoid low-lying areas. Seek shelter in the highest areas possible.

Develop an evacuation plan for your family. Designate a place where your family will meet after an evacuation order is issued and make sure you are prepared to leave quickly should the US Coast Guard close the river to commercial traffic including the Bald Head Island Ferry.

STEP 4 – PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY FROM THE HAZARD

Various methods may be used to minimize flooding. If the floor level of your property is lower than the "Base Flood Elevation" (elevation of the 100-year flood, based on the FEMA maps), consider elevating your structure, if possible. Brochures discussing flood proofing and other mitigation measures are available through the Development Services Department at 910-457-9700.

If a flood is imminent, property can be protected by sandbagging areas subject to the entry of water into living spaces. Valuables and furniture may also be moved to higher areas of the dwelling to minimize damages. Residents can help reduce flooding by taking an active role in keeping trash and debris off the streets and sidewalks and out of streams and ditches.

STEP 5 – BUILD RESPONSIBLY

Development within the Village requires various types of permits depending on the project. Always check and fulfill permitting requirements with the Development Services Department at 910-457-9700. The department will also make a site visit to your property to discuss drainage problems and offer advice on

Continued on page 11



Flooding from Potential Tropical Cyclone #8 (September 2024).

how to protect your property. If a property is within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) it will need to follow the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance, including obtaining a floodplain development permit. Further, coastal development will need to comply with the Coastal Area Management Act regulations.

Remember, when building or grading, always maintain a clear area between lots for drainage.

The Village requires that if the cost of reconstruction, additions, or other improvements to a building equals or exceeds 50% of the building's market value, then the building must meet the same construction requirements as a new building. Substantially damaged buildings must also be brought up to the same standards. Contact the Development Services Director at 910-457-9700 for more information.

STEP 6 – PROTECT NATURAL FLOODPLAIN FUNCTIONS

Floodplains are a natural component of the Bald Head Island environment. Understanding and protecting the natural functions of the Village's dunes, freshwater ponds, maritime forest, and saltmarsh helps reduce potential flood damage and protect resources. Poorly planned development can damage these natural areas, weaken flood protection functions, cause habitat loss, adversely impact water quality, and lead to increased risk of flooding.

Much of the Island is conserved as natural floodplain open space to protect flora and fauna. Contact the Bald Head Island Conservancy at 910-457-0089 for more information.

STEP 7 – GENERAL PREPAREDNESS

The Brunswick County Emergency Management Department recommends community members prepare their families, homes, and businesses for all types of emergency events. They recommend four simple steps: (1) preparing an emergency kit; (2) making a plan for what you will do, including evacuation; (3) stay informed about the event and; (4) get involved in preparing

your community.

Brunswick County Emergency Management (<https://www.brunswickcountync.gov/203/Emergency-Management>) provides detailed information about local hazards and threats of all types, evacuation routes, shelters, and how to prepare an emergency kit.

Inventory and photograph your home's contents and put important papers and insurance policies in a safe place.

If possible, place the washer, dryer, furnace, and water heater above potential flood waters. They should be placed on masonry blocks or concrete at least 12 inches above the projected flood elevation, moved to inside a floodwall or moved to a higher floor. All work must conform to state and local building codes.

STEP 8 – HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

In the event of a storm, check TV and radio sources for up-to-date information. Know what to do in the event of a hurricane watch, warning, and/or evacuation order. Create a checklist for emergency supplies, know the locations of evacuation centers, and plan ahead for family and your pets. Prepare your home before a storm to reduce potential damage.

For evacuation routes, shelter locations, and other hurricane preparedness tips, visit <https://www.brunswickcountync.gov/203/Emergency-Management>.

STEP 9 – FLOOD EDUCATION

Bald Head Island and Brunswick County have many resources available to help you understand your flood risk and options for mitigation. If you want to learn more about flood risk as well as the benefits of mitigation, contact the Development Services Department at 910-457-9700. The Development Services Director can come to discuss these topics with your homeowners' association or neighborhood group. The Village is also promoting education on NAI—no adverse impact floodplain management—to set local goals and reduce damages from floods. To learn more about NAI, visit www.floods.org or contact the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM).

STEP 10 – PROTECT DUNES AND MARSHES

Protecting the natural coastline is a critical piece in the protection of Bald Head Island. Dunes and marshes can provide flood protection by acting as barriers and absorbing water, help to prevent coastal erosion, and help with shoreline stabilization. Coastal development impacts the health of these features and their ability to perform these natural services.

The Village of Bald Head Island monitors all beaches along the 14 miles of shoreline on the Island consistently with (CAMA) requirements. For more information, contact the Assistant Village Manager at 910-457-9700, ext. 1003 or visit the shoreline protection section (<https://villagebhi.org/departments-services/shoreline-protection/>) of the Bald Head Island website for more information about current projects.

For more information about flood safety or the NFIP, please note the following:

www.floodsmart.gov

www.ready.gov/floods

1-888-379-9531





Emma Phillips Shines Light on Hatchling Misorientation

By Will Burgman, Marketing Associate, BHI Conservancy

Emma Phillips, our 2025 Sea Turtle Technician, is leading vital research into how artificial lighting on Bald Head Island affects the survival of loggerhead sea turtle hatchlings. Her 2024 research project, “What Horizon? The Effect of Light Pollution on Loggerhead Hatchlings on Bald Head Island, NC,” focused on understanding how unnatural light sources disrupt the hatchlings’ journey from nest to sea.

She investigated the intensity and sources of light pollution in the skies of BHI that contribute to hatchling misorientation, a phenomenon where baby turtles crawl in the wrong direction, away from the ocean, often leading to exhaustion, dehydration, predation, and ultimately, death. This disorientation is typically caused by artificial light sources that outshine the natural horizon, confusing the hatchlings’ instinct to move toward the brightest point, normally the moonlit ocean.

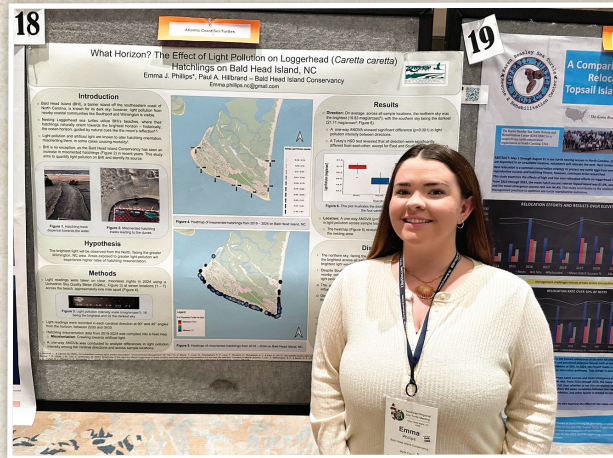
During the 2024 nesting season, Emma used a Unihedron Sky Quality Meter to collect light readings across Bald Head Island on moonless nights. She mapped these readings to create a detailed heat map that revealed the brightest, and therefore most hazardous, areas for hatchlings. Her results showed that misorientation occurs throughout the Island, with the middle of South Beach emerging as a significant hotspot for light pollution.

Now in her expanded role as Sea Turtle Technician, Emma is continuing this research in 2025, while also working to raise awareness about the issue.

Emma Phillips, BHI Conservancy Sea Turtle Technician.

Through public education, fieldwork, and collaboration with island residents and stakeholders, she is helping promote turtle friendly lighting practices that minimize artificial glow and protect these vulnerable animals.

Emma’s work is a shining example of how science and conservation come together to ensure Bald Head Island remains a sanctuary for nesting sea turtles for generations to come.



Handling Yard Debris — Help Mitigate Fire Hazards

As you travel around Bald Head Island, you may have noticed landscape debris piles on the roadside that have been there for an extended time period. Some debris piles have even been dumped on empty lots. Temporary debris piles left on your own lot for the Village to pick up are allowed as long as you notify them accordingly. Let’s cover handling yard debris if you’re a homeowner or a contractor. Handling debris piles in the correct manner can help mitigate fire hazards.

First, before you or a contractor start trimming or cutting, make sure you comply with the Design Guidelines (visit www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/architectural-review-and-design-guidelines).

Debris piles with no pickup notification to the Village are not allowed; plus, they could present a possible fire hazard, especially if left for a long time. If you’ve hired a landscape contractor, they are responsible for handling the debris correctly. As the homeowner, please ensure that your contractor complies.

The Village of BHI has scheduled pickups of yard debris year-round for residents who do their own yard work and who occupy a home on the property. The Village notes that it is not a lot-clearing service and that the house must be occupied to use this pickup service. The schedule for April through October is twice a month, on the first and third Wednesday. For

November through March, pickup is once a month on the first Wednesday of the month.

The Village will not accept limbs larger than six inches in diameter at the largest point. Piles should be left on the roadside but ensure they are not placed on water meters or other utility infrastructure. To request a pickup, call 910-457-9700, ext. 1000 or place a service request online (www.villagebhi.org) and select “Service Request” just below the photo, on the right). The request must be made no later than 2:00pm on the day before the scheduled pickup. Requests made after this time will be scheduled for the next pickup day. You must call in or place an online work order, or it will not be picked up.

If you are able to transport your landscaping debris, you may take it to the Timbercreek Mulch Site on North Bald Head Wynd.



TIDBITS:

(Noun) a small and particularly interesting item of information.

Bicycles, Pedestrians and Golf Carts, Oh My!

As BHI's population increases for the summer season, it's a good time to remember that BHI roadways are shared with pedestrians, bicyclists, golf carts, small contractor trucks/vans and large trucks. North Carolina traffic laws apply for safety, and pedestrians and bicyclists should comply with correct traffic flow.

All pedestrians should walk/jog/run **against** the flow of traffic (therefore, facing vehicles) on BHI roads. Wear brightly colored clothing and be extra cautious on blind curves. Walk/jog/run in single-file and stay on the correct side of the road when vehicles approach.

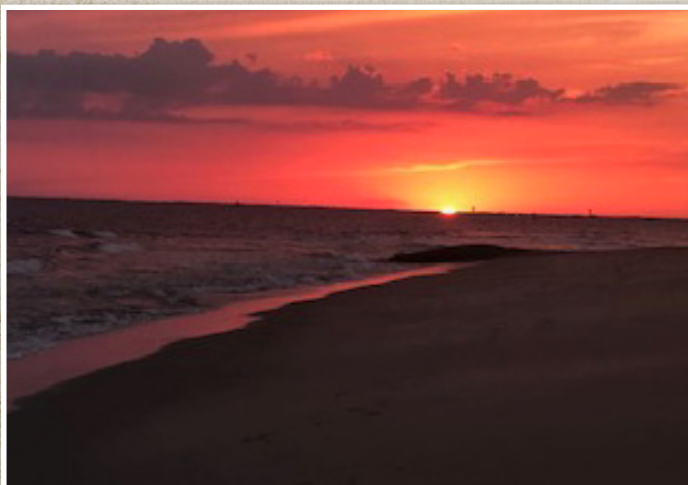
All bicyclists should ride single file **with** the flow of traffic. Bicyclists are subject to the same rules of the road as other vehicles — stay to the right. Wear brightly colored clothing for higher visibility and wear a helmet to help protect your head and brain from injury in the event of an accident. Local laws and Village ordinances require anyone under the age of 16 to wear a helmet while on a bicycle, scooter (motorized or non-motorized), roller blades or similar means of transportation. Front and rear lights must be in working order while riding at night. Pull over to the right side of the road when safe to do so to allow carts, trams, Public Safety QRVs (Quick Response Vehicles) and commercial vehicles to pass.

Please share this information with your guests and renters. Let's all work together and stay safe.



The Day and Night Sky of Bald Head Island


By Pat Miller



The rising moon on East Beach. Photo by Pat Miller.

Once upon a time, this Island was so dark at night that walking down South Bald Head Wynd was impossible without a light. Walking on the beach was an ethereal experience as stars, our Milky Way galaxy, sea sparkle (bioluminescence) or magic along the shore brought gasps of delight to islanders and visitors.

Did you know that the night sky is waiting to reveal her magic again? But, it will take Island cooperation to make the magic come back. Will **YOU** do your part? Lower the wattage in all outside lights, check if your stair lights meet code and turn off lights not being used.

People have asked if there is any way to suggest to neighbors that lowering their lights would be appreciated, since light pollution is **REAL** and affects us. **YOU** may be new to the Island or have never thought about light pollution. **YOU** can help bring back the magical time when the beauty of darkness revealed the glory of the night sky on Bald Head Island. 

Join the Fun! Join a Committee! Contact Your Board Liaison!

ARC-A (Christine Osborne)

ChristineOsborne@BaldHeadAssociation.com

ARC-B (Derek Crump)

Derek.Crump@BaldHeadAssociation.com

ER (Betty Robinson)

Betty.Robinson@BaldheadAssociation.com

RCB (Betty Robinson)

Betty.Robinson@BaldheadAssociation.com

Nominating (Steve Smalley)

Steve.Smalley@BaldHeadAssociation.com

Long Range Planning (Steve Smalley)

Steve.Smalley@BaldHeadAssociation.com

Finance (Paul Carey and Vickie Lonker)

Paul.Carey@BaldHeadAssociation.com

Vickie.Lonker@BaldHeadAssociation.com



Left: Betty Robinson, RCB and ER Committees

Right: Vickie Lonker, Finance Committee

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Photo by Cynthia Chan.

Island Times are Good Times!



Top to bottom: The Austin band at the May 28th Community Concert, Steve and Kristin Henson, BHI Yacht Club, and the Old Baldy Foundation golf cart parade.

Scan this QR code with your phone camera for full details on BHA's events calendar!



July 2025:

| | | |
|---|---------------------|--------|
| Independence Day (BHA Offices Closed) | 7/4/2025 | |
| Annual Golf Cart Parade | 7/4/2025 | 9am |
| BHI Artisan's Show & Sale | 7/5/2025 | 10am |
| Harbour ARC Review Meeting | 7/10/2025 | 10am |
| Community Concert in Marina Park (Snapback) | 7/10/2025 | 6pm |
| Howl at the Moon — "Buck Moon" | 7/10/2025 | 7pm |
| ARC-A Meeting | 7/11/2025 | 9:30am |
| Smith Island Art League Exhibition | 7/12/2025-7/13/2025 | 10am |
| ARC-B Meeting | 7/18/2025 | 9:30am |
| Village Council Meeting | 7/18/2025 | 10am |
| Community Concert in Marina Park (Tru Sol) | 7/23/2025 | 6pm |
| BHA Board Meeting | 7/25/2025 | 8:30am |

August 2025:

| | | |
|--|-------------------|--------|
| ARC-A Meeting | 8/1/2025 | 9:30am |
| Pirate Invasion | 8/1/2025-8/3/2025 | |
| Seafood Boil & Historic Talk — Old Baldy | 8/7/2025 | 5pm |
| National Lighthouse Weekend — Old Baldy | 8/8/2025 | 10am |
| Run for the Light | 8/8/2025 | 4pm |
| Howl at the Moon — "Sturgeon Moon" | 8/8/2025 | 7pm |
| ARC-B Meeting | 8/15/2025 | 9:30am |
| Village Council Meeting | 8/15/2025 | 10am |
| Mortimer Men's Fellowship | 8/18/2025 | 8:30am |
| BHA Board Meeting | 8/22/2025 | 8:30am |
| BHI Artisan's Show & Sale | 8/30/2025 | 10am |

Around the Corner in 2025:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Labor Day (BHA Offices Closed) | 9/1/2025 | |
| ARC-A Meeting | 9/5/2025 | 9:30am |
| Howl at the Moon — "Harvest Moon" | 9/7/2025 | 6pm |
| Community Potluck Dinner | 9/8/2025 | 6pm |
| Date Night Under the Stars | 9/13/2025 | 6pm |
| ARC-B Meeting | 9/19/2025 | 9:30am |
| Village Council Meeting | 9/19/2025 | 10am |
| Project Longevity | 9/23/2025 | 1:30pm |
| BHA Board Meeting | 9/26/2025 | 8:30am |

Ongoing:

| | | |
|---|----------------------|---------|
| Village Chapel Services: | | |
| (Sundays, Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend) | | |
| Traditional Service | | 8:30am |
| Contemporary Service | | 10am |
| Knitting Group: | Wednesdays | 9:30am |
| Yoga Classes: | Mondays & Wednesdays | 11:15am |

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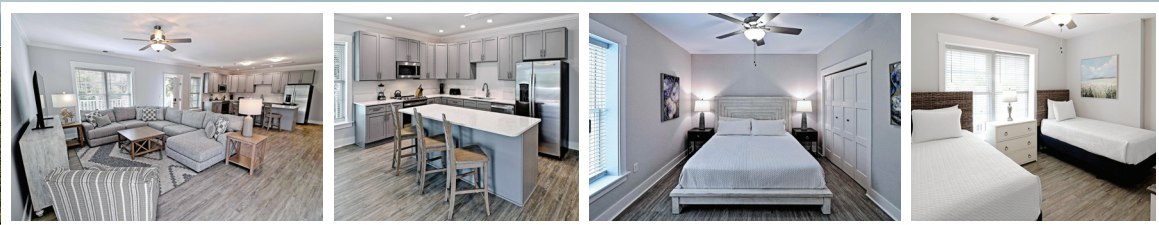
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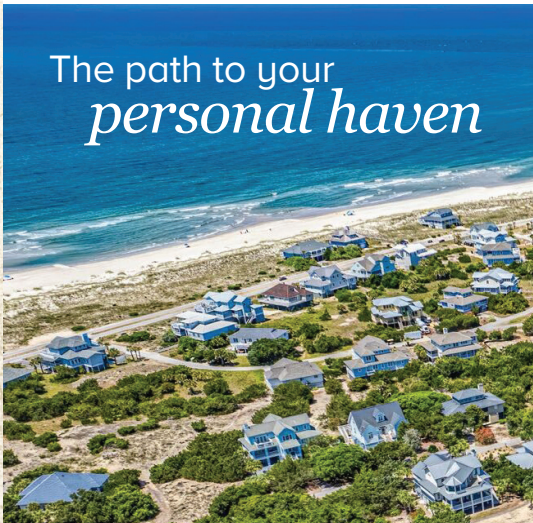
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