

Who Do I Call? Call 911 on BHI — For All Emergencies and For Non-emergencies That Require an Emergency Responder on the Scene

For all emergencies, call 911 and tell the dispatch operator that you are on Bald Head Island. **DO NOT DRIVE** to the Public Safety Complex at any time for emergencies. Seconds count in an emergency. Prevent delays in response time by following the proper protocol. Some BHI property owners continue to have a misperception about driving to the Public Safety Complex for emergencies. Please help inform all of your BHI neighbors, guests and renters about the proper emergency protocol — stay where you are and call 911.

The Village Public Safety Department is staffed 24/7/365 with fully trained responders who can handle medical, fire, police and water rescue emergencies. The department has a full fleet of emergency vehicles on Bald Head Island — fire trucks, ambulances, public safety vehicles and jet skis — outfitting personnel with the necessary tools for responding to emergencies in real time. For medical cases needing transport to a hospital, depending on the situation, BHI has the capability of transporting patients via the ferry or a network of helicopters.

Non-emergencies That Require an Emergency Responder

If you need an emergency responder on the scene on BHI, call 911. Tell the 911 operator that you are on Bald Head Island and if the situation is an emergency or a non-emergency. This includes some unique situations on BHI that might be considered non-emergencies, but because of their effects, you call 911 if you're on BHI. This includes specific situations on BHI such as:

- If you see anyone harassing **ANY** wildlife, call 911. These actions create a potentially hazardous situation for everyone on BHI and are unlawful. If one bad actor teaches aggressive behavior to alligators and wildlife, that impacts every person on BHI, as well as the alligators and other wildlife. Violating this Village Ordinance carries up to a \$500 fine.
- Sea Turtles frequent the shores of Bald Head Island and are a federally protected species. It is unlawful to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect sea turtle hatchlings, eggs or adult turtles or their remains. Violating the law regarding this federally protected species can include up to a \$100,000 fine and/or up to one (1) year in jail.
- If you see anyone fishing in **ANY** lagoon/pond on BHI, call 911. If you put **ANYTHING** in a freshwater pond (including a fishing lure), it will be perceived by alligators as food so, no feeding the fish or turtles either. Wildlife such as alligators may mistake you, your children or pets for food. Violating this Village Ordinance carries up to a \$500 fine.

Calling 911 logs the call into the 911 system. This helps dispatchers immediately notify the appropriate emergency responders and direct them to the scene, and it tracks a record of the event. With 911 logs, the Public Safety Department can track and learn from response times, assist with training and determine current and future staffing needs required.