



Police Pages

Town of Southern Shores Police Department

Welcome back to the Southern Shores Police Pages Newsletter. We have received some wonderful feedback from you regarding the newsletter and would like to hear more. If any of you have a suggestion for something that you would like to see addressed in the newsletter, please let us know by calling 252-261-3331 or e-mailing us at infpd@southernshores-nc.gov. Thank you for your continued support of the Police Department and, as always, we look forward to hearing from you!



North Carolina law 20-135.2A says that each occupant of a motor vehicle manufactured with seat belts shall have a seatbelt properly fastened about his or her body at all times when the vehicle is in forward motion on a street or highway in this State. From May 21 through June 3, 2007, all law enforcement participating in the NC Governor's Highway Safety Program, "Click It or Ticket," will be looking to make sure that you do just that. Increased education and enforcement of the seat belt law will be in effect during these dates. So please, don't forget to buckle up!



Summertime in Southern Shores!

Summer is here and with it comes all those things that we love (and hate) about summer. The traffic heavier, the stores are busier and the restaurants are crowded. But the sun is shining, the water's warm and the breeze is cool! Keep these things in mind to make your summer even better... Please keep your house and your car locked when they aren't oc-

cupied. Otherwise, you're an easy target. Don't leave valuables in your car and don't leave them unattended when you're at the beach. It's best to keep your money, keys or i.d. in some type of waterproof floating "keyper." Don't store chairs, umbrellas, surf boards or floats out in the open even if it's underneath your cottage or house. Don't leave towels and or bathing suits hanging out to dry overnight as they have been

known to disappear. Take extra time when traveling to the store or out to eat as traffic will be heavy. Please always keep an eye on your children as it is very for them to get lost in an unfamiliar place particularly on a beach where everything "looks the same." Be alert, be safe but by all means,

**HAVE
FUN!!**



Where Can I Ride My Bicycle?



What could be better than riding your bike on a bright sunny day with the beach breezes to keep you cool? Summer is here and the tourists are back so you are sure to see plenty of bicycles on the sidewalks, the bike paths and the roadways. Occasionally we get the question, "Where am I supposed to ride my bike?" Legally, you can ride your bicycle in any of those locations. A bicycle is considered a vehicle with the same rights to the road as any other vehicle. But keep in mind, when you ride

your bicycle on the road, you are subject to the same motor vehicle laws as every other vehicle on the road. You must stop at stop signs; you must ride on the right side of the road and you must yield the right of way. By the same token, all other traffic must treat a bicycle on the road as they would any other vehicle by using proper passing and following at a proper distance.

Riding on the sidewalk or the multi-use path is certainly safer especially for the inexperienced biker. And

while NC Motor Vehicle Law doesn't apply there, the Rules of Common Courtesy certainly should. You should ride on the right side of the pathway to allow for traffic going the opposite direction. When you attempt to overtake a pedestrian or another bicyclist, announce your intentions and proceed with caution. When attempting to cross a busy roadway, it is best to get off the bicycle and walk it across.

Safety is always a priority when riding a bicycle. While it is not yet a law for adults to

wear a helmet when riding, it is a good idea as serious injury can result even in the most minor accidents. NC law does require any person under the age of 16 to wear a bicycle helmet and the guardian is liable for any violation. Lights and reflectors are a must particularly when riding at night. And as always, your ears and your eyes are your most important safety equipment.

There are many beautiful places to ride in the Outer Banks with miles of bike paths. Please bike smartly and safely!



Listen To Your Lifeguard!

Southern Shores contracts with Outer Banks Ocean Rescue for its lifeguard services. There are 3 lifeguard stands posted on Southern Shores beaches throughout the summer at strategic locations. Remember, they are here for your safety, so please pay attention to your lifeguards and don't hesitate to ask for their assistance. The guards will have radio contact with Dare Central Communications and can summon other emergency services when needed.

The ocean is a very dangerous place and unless you have lived at the ocean all your life or are a trained professional, the danger it presents isn't always apparent to the casual observer. Rip tides are a phenomenon that occurs quite frequently on our coast and present a very real

danger to people who are not prepared. Sea life is another unseen danger. From jellyfish to sharks, you never know what may be lurking beneath the surface. Shark attacks are rare but can happen.

Red flags. No one likes to see them flying over the beach but they are there for your protection. When the flags are flying, conditions are present that pose a very real threat to swimmers. Did you know that in Southern Shores that there is an ordinance against swimming when the red flags are posted? You can be cited if you ignore the red flags and enter the ocean. That is because you not only put yourself at risk but also put in harms way any emergency personnel that has to respond should you get into trouble. When the red flags are posted—STAY OUT OF THE

WATER!

Lifeguards also help out the Police Department by acting as their eyes and ears. While a lifeguard may not have the authority to enforce the law, they make the perfect witness to violations outside an officers presence. So if a lifeguard advises you that you are breaking a law or local ordinance and advise you to stop, it would be in your best interest to do what they say.

As we said, lifeguards are out here to protect you and often put themselves in harms way to do that. Let's show them the respect that they deserve!



Achieving Excellence Through Integrity



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In our last newsletter, we attempted to take a poll on suggestions that we received regarding a name for our newsletter. As we got little to no response, we will assume that Police Pages will do for now. We do appreciate any and all feedback that we get from our readers so please do not hesitate to contact us with your suggestions, good or bad.

We hope to have some exciting things coming your way as the summer progresses. Soon the boat will be in the water with a fresh look as well as officers on bicycles and the beach. When you see them, please stop them and introduce yourself. We are working hard to be a part of the community and hope you will help us make that happen.

Summers here and the time is right for

FUN!
FUN!
FUN!


