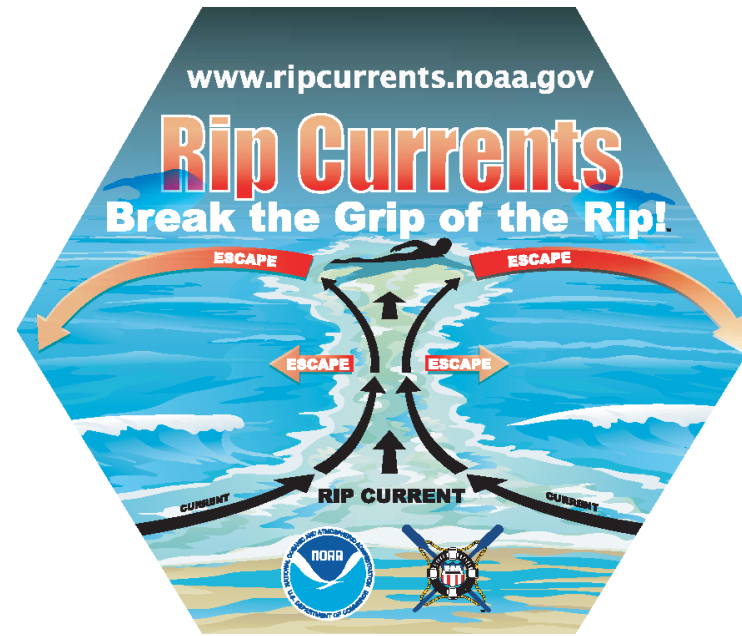


## WE WANT YOU AS A VISITOR, NOT A VICTIM

The Wrightsville Beach Police Department, on behalf of all our area merchants and citizens, welcome you to our community and the greater New Hanover County area in general. We take pride in living and working in a safe, family oriented beach community, but as in any other area, we do have some problems with criminal activity. To insure a safe, enjoyable stay in our area we offer the following suggestions for your consideration. If we may be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us. We hope that you enjoy your visit and return to our area soon.

- 1 Leave valuables locked in the trunk of your car or locked in the hotel safe, even when leaving for short “down to the beach” trips.
- 2 Always make sure your car is locked and your windows are completely up. If you are staying in a local residence or hotel, remember to lock the doors.
- 3 Never leave room keys, car keys or valuables on your beach blanket when swimming or “beach combing”.
- 4 Report any suspicious activity by calling the police department.
- 5 Never swim alone or in areas unprotected by lifeguards. Obey lifeguard safety flags. They are posted for your protection. Inlets are the most dangerous places on our coast. Never swim or wade in or near the inlets.
- 6 If caught in an rip current, do not panic or try to fight it. These areas are very narrow and you can swim out of them by swimming parallel to the beach.

*The regulations contained herein have been adopted by the Town of Wrightsville Beach for the health, safety and protection of all those who use the beach strand. Please comply with these ordinances and regulations and any other applicable laws.*



### Know how to swim, Learn how to swim!

When at the beach:

- ◆ Whenever possible, swim at a lifeguard-protected beach.
- ◆ Never swim alone.
- ◆ Learn how to swim in the surf. It's not the same as swimming in a pool or lake.
- ◆ Be cautious at all times, especially when swimming at unguarded beaches. If in doubt, don't go out.
- ◆ Obey all instructions and orders from lifeguards. Lifeguards are trained to identify potential hazards. Ask a lifeguard about the conditions before entering the water. This is part of their job.
- ◆ Stay at least 100 feet away from piers and jetties. Permanent rip currents often exist along side these structures.
- ◆ Consider using polarized sunglasses when at the beach. They will help you to spot signatures of rip currents by cutting down glare and reflected sunlight off the ocean's surface.
- ◆ Pay especially close attention to children and elderly when at the beach. Even in shallow water, wave action can cause loss of footing.

## Surfing Regulations:

To help ensure the safety of all beach patrons, surfers must be securely attached to their board with a “leash”.

### Surfing is always prohibited in the following areas:

- ◆ Within 500 feet of Johnnie Mercer's Fishing Pier (between Beach Access # 15 & #16)
- ◆ Within 100 feet of Crystal Pier at Oceanic Restaurant (between Beach Access #36 & #37)
- ◆ Within 100 feet of the Masonboro Inlet Jetty (between Beach Access #42 & #43)

From Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, surfing is prohibited in areas located in front of each lifeguard stand. The length of these “No Surfing” areas will be no less than 600 feet and no greater than 750 feet. Surfing is prohibited in these areas whenever lifeguards are on duty. Lifeguard stands are normally staffed from 10 AM to 5 PM, but these hours may be extended when the beach is busy.

Additional “No Surfing” areas may be posted due to weather conditions, beach population, special events, etc.

Surfers are reminded to respect the “space” of other beach patrons.

### Reckless surfing that endangers another person is prohibited.

***If you see someone in trouble, don't become a victim too.***

***Get help from a lifeguard. If a lifeguard is not available, have someone call 911***



For more information about surfing at Wrightsville Beach, check with a lifeguard.

## GENERAL REGULATIONS

**Alcoholic Beverages** ~ Public consumption is prohibited year-round. Carrying an open alcoholic beverage container is also prohibited.

**Animals** ~ None allowed on the beach strand from April 1 to September 30. From October 1 to March 30, dogs are allowed on the beach, but must be on a leash AT ALL TIMES and you must have an appropriate container with you to dispose of dog waste AT ALL TIMES.

**Bicycles** ~ Every person riding a bicycle shall be subject to all of the laws of this state applicable to vehicles. Every person operating a bicycle shall ride as near to the right-hand side of the roadway as practicable. Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast. No person shall ride a bicycle upon any sidewalk or walkway within the town. (Excerpts from Wrightsville Beach Town Code, Chapter 71. These ordinances are in effect all year). NOTE: "The Loop" is a sidewalk, and, as such, bicycles are prohibited. **North Carolina law requires every person under 16 years old to wear an approved bicycle helmet when operating a bicycle.**

**Fishing** ~ None allowed from any of the bridges including the Banks Channel bridges.

**Fireworks** ~ Town ordinance prohibits any open flames on public property. Although some fireworks are legal in NC, most are not. The use of any type of fireworks on Wrightsville Beach is highly discouraged due to building density and the potential spread of fire, the resultant litter, as well as the potential for personal injury.

**Litter** ~ No glass containers, fires, or cooking devices allowed at any time. Numerous containers for litter and recycling are provided up and down the strand. Please utilize these containers and help keep our beach litter-free. Discarded cigarette butts ARE considered litter and are the largest source of litter on the beach.

**Noise** ~ It is unlawful to create any unreasonably loud, disturbing sound levels within the town.

**Sea Turtles** ~ It is illegal to harass, molest, collect or otherwise harm sea turtle eggs, hatchlings and adults.

**Skateboards** ~ No person shall ride a skateboard upon any roadway, unless to cross a street at a crosswalk or intersection.

**Vegetation** ~ The removal of sea oats or other vegetation is prohibited year-round.

**Vehicles** ~ None allowed on the beach strand or the berm system year-round.

**Tents, Umbrellas, & Canopies** ~ It is unlawful for any person to leave tents, canopies or umbrellas on the beach strand overnight

## PARKING REGULATIONS

### General

There are a limited number of legal parking spaces available in Wrightsville Beach. These spaces are defined by white markings on the roadway. All vehicles not parked within the white lines are considered in violation and will be ticketed.

### Meters and Pay Stations

Approximately half of the legal parking spaces are metered. Some areas use individual or double meters; some areas and all parking lots use pay stations. Meters and pay stations are enforced from **March 1st through October 31st**, seven days a week, including holidays. The rate for parking is \$2.00 per hour.

### Payment of Fines and Questions Concerning Parking

The Town of Wrightsville Beach contracts with Lanier Parking for the enforcement of parking regulations. Payments of fines and all questions concerning parking should be directed to:

**Lanier Parking Services  
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480  
Telephone: 910.256.5453**

***Metered Parking Helps Support  
Keeping Our Beaches Clean and Safe  
for Visitors and Residents***

# TOWN OF WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH REGULATIONS



**321 Causeway Drive  
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480**

**[www.towb.org](http://www.towb.org)**

***If your need police assistance for any  
reason call 911.***