



OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Week of Monday, September 4, 2023 - Monday, September 11, 2023

Monday, September 4, 2023 LABOR DAY

WEEKLY MEETING: CONVENTION CENTER – 40th STREET-Southwest corner on steps

CREW CHIEF MEETING WITH AREA SERGEANTS: 08:00hrs

FULL CREW CHIEF MEETING: 08:15hrs

SEMAPHORE TEST: 08:15hrs- **REQUIRED TO PASS PROBATIONARY STAGE (last chance)**

CREW MEETING: 08:30hrs (Turn in individual stats)

Special Presentations with special guests (Senator Mary Beth Carozza)

GENERAL MEETING: 08:30hrs

Logevity awards (See list in bulletin)

LIEUTENANTS' MEETING: 09:45hrs

Equipment Return: 1500–2000 at HQ ONLY.

OCBPSRA Certification: All events have been completed for 2023
(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

Work-out: Run Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

Surfing Beaches: Inlet Closed / 40th Street / 120th Street

Tides: High: 11:34:00 AM

Low: 6:02:00 PM

Special Events: None

Beach Weddings: 59th St 1730hrs

Beach Bonfires: 47th



SRT Name	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	Crew #
	9/4/2023	9/5/2023	9/6/2023	9/7/2023	9/8/2023	9/9/2023	9/10/2023	
Daily Assignment								Totals
Rescues								
Preventative Actions								
First Aids								
Smoking Enforcement								

Tuesday, September 5, 2023 – OIC LT Stone

OCBPSRA Certification: completed for 2023 (send any outside certifications to Debi)

Work-out: Swim Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

Surfing Beaches: Inlet OPEN / 38th Street / Carousel (118)

Tides: High: 12:26:00 PM

Low: 7:02:00 PM

Special Events: None

Beach Weddings: None

Beach Bonfires: 37th, 132nd



Wednesday, September 6, 2023 – LT Kovacs

OCBPSRA Certification: completed for 2023 (Don't forget NIMS)

Work-out: Run Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

Surfing Beaches: Inlet OPEN / 36th Street / Sea Watch (116)

Tides: High: 1:24:00 PM
Low: 12:00:00 AM

Special Events: None

Beach Weddings: None

Beach Bonfires: 91st

Thursday, September 7, 2023 – LT Kovacs

OCBPSRA Certification: completed for 2023 (Do you have SCUBA Cert?)

Work-out: Swim Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

Surfing Beaches: Inlet OPEN / 34th Street / Rainbow (112)

Tides: High: 2:27:00 PM
Low: 7:54:00 AM

Special Events: None

Beach Weddings: 59th St 1730hrs

Beach Bonfires: 30th, 88th, 136th

Friday, September 8, 2023– OIC LT Stone

OCBPSRA Certification: completed for 2023 (Are you an EMT?)

Work-out: Run Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

Surfing Beaches: Inlet OPEN / 32nd Street / Quay (108)

Tides: High: 3:36:00 PM
Low: 8:54:00 AM

Special Events: Wine Fest Inlet Lot

Beach Weddings: 59th St. 1300hrs, 140th St. 1830hrs

Beach Bonfires: 59th, 94th, 139th

Saturday, September 9, 2023

OCBPSRA Certification: completed for 2023 (Check your record)

Work-out: Swim Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

Surfing Beaches: Inlet Conditionally OPEN / 30th Street / Marigot Beach(101)

Tides: High: 4:40:00 PM
Low: 9:55:00 AM

Special Events: Wine Fest Inlet Lot, ESA Summer Surf Series

Beach Weddings: 59th St. 1000hrs, 1600hrs, 1730hrs and 1800hrs, 92nd St. 1800hrs

Beach Bonfires: 32nd, 58th, 61st, 86th, 127th, 130th, 131st, 136th, 141st

Beach Wheelchairs

OC Rec & Parks will be removing the beach wheelchair boxes from their locations beginning at 07:00hrs on Tuesday, Sept. 5th.

Please do not issue a wheelchair that day, even if one is still in the box.

Wheelchairs remain available via reservation / pickup at the Convention Center.



Guidelines for Modified Surfing

Note: The surfing ordinance is in effect until Sept. 30th each year.

- Surfers must still wear a leash.
- Swimmers **always** have the right of way.
- Surfers must remain no less than 50 yds. from the nearest swimmer or non-surfer.
- Surfers should be moved to the area between the stands.
- If there are too many swimmers, then the surfers must relocate or stop surfing altogether.
- The use of skim boards and other watercraft (kite surfers, windsurfers, kayaks, & stand-up paddleboards) is still prohibited.
- If a surfer injures another person, he/she is responsible, and we must ID the surfer, involving the police if necessary.
- Stand-up paddle boarding is allowed starting the Monday following Labor Day if surfing is modified.



Sunday, September 10, 2023

OCBPSRA Certification: Have you provided copies of NIMS?

Work-out: Run Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

Surfing Beaches: Inlet Conditionally OPEN / 28th Street / 97

Tides: High: 5:32:00 PM
Low: 10:53:00 AM

Special Events: None

Beach Weddings: None

Beach Bonfires: 144th

2023 W-2 Forms

The Town of Ocean City will send your W-2 form to the permanent address on record for you. This is the address that is printed on your paystub. W-2s will be sent out by January 31, 2024. If you need to make any changes and/or adjustments, you must fill out a change of address form and submit it to the City Hall Human Resources department by January 1, 2024 and notify Beach Patrol at the same time.

Monday, September 11, 2023– OIC LT Stone

WEEKLY MEETING: CONVENTION CENTER – 40th STREET-Southwest corner on steps

CREW CHIEF MEETING WITH AREA SERGEANTS: 08:00hrs

FULL CREW CHIEF MEETING: 08:15hrs

SEMAPHORE TEST: 08:15hrs- REQUIRED TO PASS PROBATIONARY STAGE

CREW MEETING: 08:30hrs (Turn in individual stats, get schedule, and assignments, and information from Crew Chief)

OFFICERS' MEETING: 08:30hrs

USLA ANNOUNCEMENTS: 08:45hrs

GENERAL MEETING: 08:50hrs

LIEUTENANTS' MEETING: 09:45hrs

OCBPSRA Certification: All events have been completed for 2023

(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

Work-out: Swim Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

Surfing Beaches: Inlet OPEN / 26th Street / 94th Street

Tides: High: 6:15:00 PM
Low: 11:46:00 AM

Special Events: None

Beach Weddings: None

Beach Bonfires: None



<u>Statistics</u>	<u>Week 14</u> <u>8/21/23 to</u> <u>8/27/23</u>	<u>Week 14</u> <u>8/22/22 to</u> <u>8/28/22</u>	<u>Week 14</u> <u>8/23/21 to</u> <u>8/29/21</u>
Action			
Preventions	5709	2596	2894
Rescues	97	31	241
Minor First Aid	30	120	127
Ambulance Calls	15	13	12
Police Calls	1	1	3
USCG/MDNRP	1	0	0
Lost/Found Persons	9	22	14
N. Surf Beach Population	5	16	NA
S. Surf Beach Population	19	233	NA
Inlet Surf Beach Population	15	58	NA
Beach Wheelchair Usage	29	34	1
Smoking Enforcement	15	200	179



Upcoming Town of Ocean City Special Events

ESA Summer Surf Series
Wine Fest
Bike Fest
Ocean's Calling
Bronco Beach Bash
Sunfest

Sept 9
Sept 8-9
Sept 13-19
Sept 29- Oct 1
Oct 13 – 15
Oct 19 – 22

Daily
Daily
Daily
Daily
Daily
Daily

TBD
Inlet Lot
Inlet Lot
South Ocean City
Inlet Lot
Inlet Lot



Verification of contact information and certification status

An e-mail asking you to verify your off-season contact information, with your OCBPSRA certification record attached will be sent in November. Failure to reply to this request will mark your E-mail as not deliverable and the January "Notification of Status" will not be sent. Please keep us updated about any changes in your contact information so that you will continue to receive important correspondence from the patrol.

Notification of Status for Next Season

An email will be sent to the address that you have provided (make sure it is up to date and you are checking it), letting you know that you have received an "A" rating and are being offered a position for the coming season.

This email will also contain a link to an on-line form that you will need to respond to giving us some preliminary information on availability so we may continue planning and know how many candidates we still need to appoint to Surf Rescue Academy from our remaining tests.

You can expect this email in late January. If you do not receive this email you need to contact Captain Arbin to inquire about your status

*****RENTAL REIMBURSEMENT*****

There is a \$250 stipend to offset the cost of relocating and renting seasonal housing to work for the Beach Patrol. To qualify and receive the stipend you must complete the "Seasonal Rental Housing Stipend" form, meet all the listed criteria, and submit the required documentation. You may return the form by E-Mail or in person. The stipend will be paid once all obligations have been taken care of. Use the QR code below or go to JoinBeachPatrol.com and click on the "Employees" tab and scroll down to the bottom of the page



There are several SRTs who have completed all the criteria to receive SRT II certification, except the additional required NIMS courses (ICS 200 & 800). You may complete these courses at any time and your certification will be updated. However, to be considered for appointment as an ACC for the 2024 season you must complete these NIMS courses by December 31, 2023.



CODE OF THE TOWN OF OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND: Stand Up Paddleboards

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES

Chapter 106 - WATERWAYS

ARTICLE III. - BEACH REGULATIONS

DIVISION 2. - BEACH ACTIVITIES

Sec. 106-94. - Prohibited acts.

For any person to ride or utilize a stand up paddleboard (SUP) on any water adjoining or adjacent to any beach in Ocean City during the period between May 1 to September 30, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., in each year, except as follows:

- a. Stand up paddleboards (SUP) may have full access to the ocean, to include the surf zone on days when surfing is modified starting on the Monday that follows Labor Day (September 11, 2023).
- b. On days when surfing is not modified during the period from Monday following Labor Day to September 30, SUP access will be prohibited.
- c. All SUP operators shall stay 50 yards away from all swimmers, waders and surfers while launching and beaching and while operating in the surf zone or beyond the surf zone.
- d. Any SUP operator may be asked to return to shore if a Beach Patrol member deems their activity to be a possible hazard to the operator or other person. This includes, but is not limited to, hazardous weather such as lightning, or unsafe surf conditions.
- e. SUP operators must follow all applicable state and federal laws governing stand-up paddle boards and shall have a wearable Type I, II, III or V personal floatation device (PFD) on board and a whistle.
- f. SUP shall be restricted to one operator/rider per board.
- g. All SUP operators shall have a leash that attaches the operator to their board whenever they are using the board in the ocean.
- h. Once beyond the breakers as determined by a Beach Patrol member on duty, the SUP shall operate in a north or south direction parallel to the beach and no further from shore than 200 yards.
- i. When a SUP is returning to the beach (traveling west) while the Beach Patrol is on duty, the operator shall return within 50 yards of a Beach Patrol member on duty, so that the SRT can direct the operator to a safe area and assist in keeping people clear until the SUP is safely under control and on the beach.

Important “Off-Season” timeline

October / November – Planning an off-site PEPSE in Canada – More information to follow

November – All employees will receive a copy of their OCBPSRA record attached to an E-mail which will require a response in a Google Doc. It is imperative that you attend to this matter in a timely manner. Failure to complete the Google doc will remove you from the January E-mail distribution about returning for the 2024 season.

November – Fall/Winter “Semaphore News” will be mailed to your Winter address on file to include additional items specifically for you. All employees will receive a printed copy of their OCBPSRA record as well as any other items not picked up during the summer.

January – All “A” rated employees will receive an E-mail requesting information about their tentative plans for the 2024 season. That information will be reported back to Beach Patrol through a link to our Google Doc. Failure to complete this Google doc will remove you from receiving your invitation to return for the 2024 season in the April mailing. This is the second Google Doc that requires completion during the off season. Do not become confused in thinking that you already completed this request. They are separate documents.

February/March/April – Off site testing at various locations.

March – An interest survey for CC and ACC applicants will be sent to eligible candidates with a link to an on-line form. This is the first step in the promotion and appointment process.

April – Spring “Semaphore News” will be mailed to the Winter address we have on file. If you are an “A” rated employee, you will also receive your invitation to return which must be returned by US mail. In this mailing is also information about promotions.

April (last weekend) – Promotion of CC’s and appointment of ACC’s for the 2024 season.



Mobile Rescue Units

- Mobile means MOVING! Do not become stationary unless your assignment requires it.
- Two or more quads should never congregate. This reduces the overall coverage of the beach.
- Your primary responsibility requires that you remain available at all times.
- Inform **Beach Patrol** of "ALL" your actions. They need to know what resources are available and where they are.
- NEVER leave the quad unattended with an SRT not authorized to operate it. Quads need to be readily available in an emergency.
- Perform rescues if and when necessary.
- Back up SRTs making rescues in your area of responsibility or as directed by **Beach Patrol**.
- Respond to medical emergencies in your area of responsibility or as directed by **Communications**.
- Supervise all OCBP personnel enforcing all policies and procedures.
- Assist with moving rovers when appropriate and circumstances permit.
- Patrol in your area of responsibility assisting the SRTs especially between stands and including ordinance enforcement.

Employee Evaluations: Not the Entire Picture

Although having satisfactory evaluations is very important, they are only one aspect of each employee's summative performance rating. Employee commendations, incidents, responsibility for equipment, amount of time worked, amount of time taken off during the summer, fulfilling work agreement, and last day worked with documentation are all considered by the review panel. Only after a full and thorough assessment is completed will a final recommendation be made to the Captain, by the evaluation committee, regarding an employee's status for the next season.

You may contact Captain Arbin at BARbin@oceancitymd.gov

Town of Ocean City Ordinance

SURF FISHING AND CASTING Sec. 106-131. Public beach restrictions.

Surf fishing is permitted in Ocean City. However, be sure you are not within 50 yards of swimmers or of anyone on the beach between

9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

(Code 1972, § 28-9)

WANTED

Athletic, Ambitious, Adventurous
Individuals to fill this stand!



\$500 Bounty

Ask an Officer or Crew Chief about eligibility requirements

We still have the Bounty!!

Please continue to recruit for 2024 season!

After leaving Ocean City this summer, please share your stories with friends, classmates, and family members so they have an opportunity to test for the 2024 Season.

Remember to have them provide your name as the person who recruited them so that you get credit and the \$500 bounty for each person who works in 2024.

Remember, recruiting is everyone's responsibility!



Keep your feet in the sand,
until the lifeguard's in the stand!



Our returning employees are the foundation of our success!

Congratulations to the following individuals who have met the following longevity milestones. Although we are a seasonal / temporary operation it is true testament to everyone's dedication and professionalism that more than a third of our staff have 5 or more years and nearly half of those have 10 or more years working for the Town of Ocean City.

We celebrate all our employees who have committed to work for the patrol whether for a season or a decade, but we present longevity awards for 5-year milestones. I want to say congratulations and THANK YOU to each of you for faithfully serving the citizens of Ocean City and fulfilling the mission of the Beach Patrol.

Milestone Seasons with the Beach Patrol	
Completed 40th Season in 2023	
Tim Uebel	
Completed 30th Season in 2023	
Colby Phillips	
Completed 25th Season in 2023	
Jake Foy	Debi Tyler
Completed 20th Season in 2023	
Steve DeKemper	Damien Sanzotti
Completed 15th Season in 2023	
Nick Thompson	
Completed 10th Season in 2023	
CJ LaCasse	Alex Siegel
Completed 5th Season in 2023	
Chris Barschow	Tony Handle
Jeremy Cope	Caroline Hennick
Graceann DiPeso	Connor Kick
Will Gough	Katie Zgorski



Having Served the Town for Over 20 Years	
Ben Davis (23 years)	Jamie Falcon (27 years)
Jeff Brabitz (24 years)	Mat Postell (27 years)
Jason Konyar (24 years)	
Having Served the Town for Over 30 Years	
Brent Weingard (34 years)	Mike Stone (39 years)
Having Served the Town for Over 40 Years	
Ward Kovacs (41 years)	Skip Lee (41 years)

Meet the Lifeguard: SRT Tony Handle

SRT Tony Handle is in crew 5 and sits the stand on 28th Street. Tony returned this season after spending the 2022 season in the Anne Arundel Fire Department academy where he is employed full-time as a firefighter/EMT. This is his 4th summer with the beach patrol. Tony is a Unites States Lifesaving Association (USLA) member. He has worked with our Junior Beach Patrol Program and likes to compete in athletic competitions. In his free time Tony likes to do anything that involves a board. He lives and surfs in Ocean City all year round. He also loves to skateboard, snowboard, and wakeboard.

SRT Tony Handle and the other lifeguards of the Ocean City Beach Patrol are glad to answer any of your beach and water safety questions.

If you think you would like a position with the Patrol like Tony, ask any of our Surf Rescue Technicians or visit our website at JoinBeachPatrol.com. We will be testing throughout the winter in various off-site locations for summer 2024. We pay (\$18.44 - 2023 rate, but will be receiving a pay increase for 2024) while we train you in our Surf Rescue Training Academy where all certifications will be provided and are offering a \$500.00 signing bonus. It's too late for this summer but never too late to join our team. To learn more about this amazing opportunity ask any of our Surf Rescue Technicians (Lifeguards) who can help you train or visit JoinBeachPatrol.com for training tips.



OCBP Question-of-the-Week for The Worcester County Times

I have noticed that there are less lifeguard stands on the beach and they are much further apart. Does the way they do their job change?

This time of year, in Ocean City, the beach conditions are great. The water is warm, and the crowds are smaller due to school being back in session. Locals love this time of the year. Even though beach conditions are great, it is one of the most challenging times for the beach patrol to maintain an adequately guarded beach. A large percentage of the lifeguards are back at school or college or their other careers. Scheduling personnel to cover the beach can be a challenge. Lt. Mike Stone is the person in charge of scheduling and does an amazing job of making sure the maximum numbers of available guards are deployed daily at strategic locations along all 10 miles of Ocean City beaches until the last day of our season this year, Sunday, September 24th (The 3rd Sunday after Labor Day).

The Ocean City Beach Patrol begins adjusting the stand locations on or before the third week in August each year and begins implementing a fall coverage scheme as soon as the distance between stands becomes too great to use our standard coverage scheme. Fall coverage is a reduction in available staff and extends until September 24th, this year. During reduced coverage, staffing levels will be far less than the OCBP's mid-season deployment of 91 stands (75 this season) and we will rely more on our Mobile Rescue Units. Now that Labor Day has passed, we have lost all our educators for weekdays, although many will return on weekends to help cover our beaches. The Town has provided several incentives, including a travel stipend to help the returning SRTs with the added cost of coming from distances over 110 miles away. During weekends in the fall, returning Surf Rescue Technicians will cover for a single day off for those SRT's who work the weekdays and will allow us to increase the total number of stands and decrease the distance between stands just in time for the increase in weekend populations on the beach.

While Ocean City continues to be a favorite weekend trek, keeping beach patrons safe continues to be the top priority of the Ocean City Beach Patrol. The beach patrol is committed to provide Surf Rescue Technicians (Lifeguards) along the entire beach for all visitors and residents so rather than have unguarded areas the number of available lifeguard towers are equally distributed along the beach front, which results in an increase in the distance between guards. As this redistribution occurs the location and distance between stands changes (sometimes daily). To locate the closest stand to your beach you can call OCBP headquarters at 410-289-7556 between 10:00 am and 5:30 pm or visit our website for daily locations.

The number one priority of the Ocean City Beach Patrol continues to be public safety. To make our beach as safe as possible the standard operating procedure for making rescues and providing coverage during a rescue also changes, but we need your help. Beach patrons are strongly encouraged to restrict any beach or water-related activities to times and locations when and where beach patrol personnel are on duty (between 10 and 5:30 until Sunday, September 24th, 2023), never swim alone, always stay within the limits of your swimming ability and never rely on a flotation device in place of your swimming ability. To aid your SRT in protecting your life, the beach patrol strongly suggests taking extra precautions and making sure to walk the short distance to swim in front of a lifeguard stand. This short walk is worth the lives of you and your family.



Keep your feet in the sand,
until the lifeguard's in the stand!

