

SDR Public Notice – Sea Oats

We have had many questions regarding the dune vegetation project since we sent the information out yesterday. Below is more detailed information on the project that will hopefully address the confusion.

Now that the second dune system is in place, sea oats are being planted to help stabilize the dune and create more protection for our beach and our property. Sea oats have a preferred planting window to ensure their survival. Planting in the summer months will allow the sea oats to become established before the harshest weather conditions arrive in the winter.



We understand there is some confusion on how to access the beach once the dune is planted. Because the sea oats are being mechanically planted along the top of the new dune, it is impossible to skip areas to create a pathway for each property along the shoreline to access the beach. We ask that each oceanfront property owner use a consistent pathway each time you cross the dune to access the beach. This can be achieved by using flags or stakes to guide the way. Also, CAMA has given us special consideration to use post and rope pathways based on the following guidelines: Posts cannot be greater than 4X4, no deeper than 5 feet, spaced no closer than 7 feet, only rope railings can be used and it must be at least 3 feet above the ground to avoid sea turtle interactions. Be aware that post and ropes may not be installed until after planting has been done in front of your property. You can also transplant the sea oats

from your chosen pathway to another area of the dune. Any method used should be turtle friendly and consistent with CAMA regulations.

We appreciate your patience as we continue to build and maintain our beach strand and dune system to provide the best protection possible for our Town. Please contact Town Hall should you have questions. We are happy to help.

Although Town Hall continues to be closed to the public at this time, Staff is always available by phone at 910-328-5841 and email addresses for each staff member can be found on the Town's website www.topsailbeach.org.