



# TOWN OF BETHANY BEACH E-NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY 2019

### South Atlantic and Cedarwood Street Project Complete

The project begun last February is complete with the paving and striping of the northern end of South Atlantic Avenue and Cedarwood Street.

The project has created safe ADA compliant pedestrian walkways and safe areas for bike riders that are not immediately adjacent to traffic lanes. Longstanding drainage issues were also addressed in the project and problematic areas where storm water would pool for days were eliminated with the use of a pervious pavement.

The Town's use of pervious pavement in this project is the largest application of this type in the area. 145,425 sq. feet of pervious asphalt pavement was laid as part of the project (the equivalent of approximately 360 individual driveways in Bethany Beach). Pervious pavement allows rainfall to be captured and percolate into the ground, reducing storm-water runoff, recharging groundwater and providing solutions to many environmental concerns that exist in areas in close proximity to the Indian River Bay watershed.

The Town Council in the next year will discuss how best to proceed on North Atlantic Avenue with residents and engineers as they consider a similar type of project.



## Storm Preparedness and Disaster Recovery

Superstorm Sandy taught the region many lessons and broke the perception that many held that areas farther north on the Atlantic Coast were somehow immune from the mega storms so often seen south of the Delmarva Peninsula in the Atlantic and in the Gulf of Mexico.

The storm showed how important preparedness was at the municipal level and for the first time for many showed the benefit of planning for disaster recovery in a way that would allow government to continue to provide essential municipal services as soon as possible after a major storm event.

Just as Sandy leveled entire coastal communities, we were again reminded this year by Hurricane Michael that these storms have the potential to wash away entire communities as Michael did in Mexico Beach, Florida.

Because of this several years ago the Town bought a small parcel of land (7 acres), outside of the 100-year flood plain, close to Roxanna to build a backup facility for the Town's Public Works yard. Our Public Works Yard is located just a few hundred feet west of the Atlantic Ocean and is bordered on its western boundary by the Salt Pond. Certainly, a candidate for significant damage or destruction in a major storm. There was a 16,000 square foot chicken layer house on the property that was in good condition and converted to dry storage for Town equipment, plus two office areas that were renovated to provide workspace for both Public Works and the Town's Water Department.

In addition, the Town has constructed a 12,000 square foot steel warehouse to house the Town's Trolleys (the Town had been paying \$20,000 a year in storage fees to store Town vehicles off season). Attached to the warehouse is 2400 square feet of office space the Town will use in a disaster recovery mode to house all Town administrative, fiscal, building, code enforcement and police functions in a post disaster environment.



## Town Purchases Property



## Town Poised to Begin Central Park Construction

After a delay of almost a year, while problematic regulatory permits were obtained, the Town has reached the point where it will be able to solicit bids to construct Central Park.

Plans for the park, which were developed after significant public input, have been finalized and construction may begin this spring pending Council action.



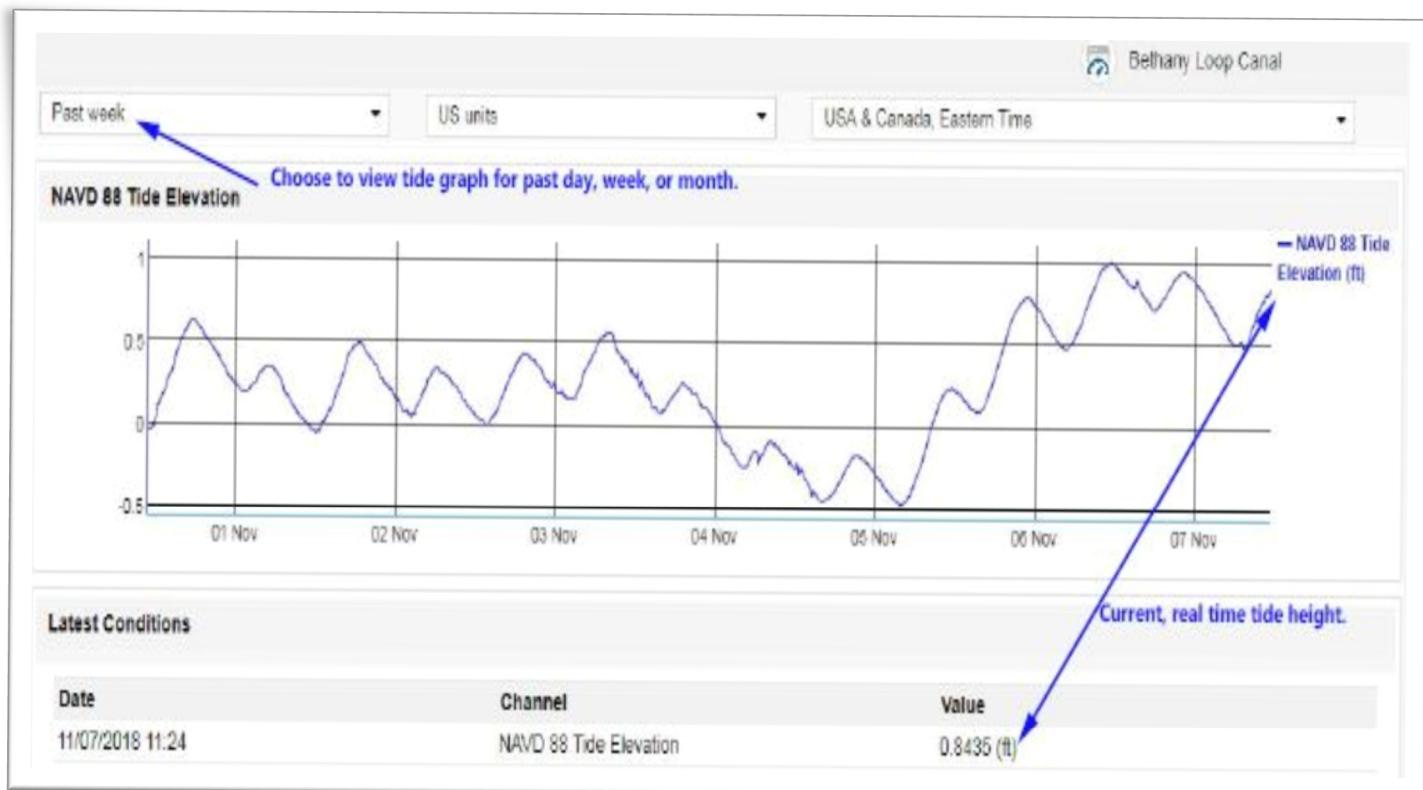
Master Plan



## TIDES 101

Have you ever been concerned about how a storm is affecting Bethany Beach and the impact of tidal flooding on the Town? These easy steps will allow you to access live weather and tidal conditions in real time.

1. Visit [www.townofbethanybeach.com](http://www.townofbethanybeach.com)
2. Click on the link near the bottom of the page called **Current Conditions**. (You can also access this link by opening the cloud icon at the top of the landing page.)
3. Under the heading **Tides**, click on the link named **Real Time Tidal and Flood Tracking**.
4. In the grey bar, select the **Graphs** tab to see the graph pictured below. By clicking on the various tabs, you can track tides and their impacts by the past day, week, and month to the minute.
5. The map pictured below the graph will further illustrate the conditions in Town. Click on the tab (0.0ft to 5.0ft) that most closely corresponds to the number of feet shown on the graph to determine the current level of tidal inundation in Bethany Beach. This does not necessarily indicate that those areas are flooded but that they cannot drain and have a high potential for flooding until the tide recedes.



## Town Council to Consider Renovating and Expanding Guard House Comfort Station.

Anyone who has had occasion to try to use the restrooms in the Guardhouse in the middle of summer knows how incredibly crowded they are. And you also can't help but notice that they are in dire need of renovation. In the next few months the Council will consider moving ahead with a project that will expand the restrooms and give them a much-needed facelift.

Unfortunately, our ability to expand is very limited, but within those limitations the Town will be able to increase the number of people the comfort station will accommodate.

### **Proposed interior redesign and additions.**

## BETHANY BEACH COMFORT STATION

BETHANY BEACH, DELAWARE

**PROPOSED ELEVATIONS & FLOOR PLAN - Option 1**

1/4" = 1-0'  
January 14, 2019  
DBF #0176A048.A01

**dbp** DAVIS  
BOWEN &  
FRIEDEL, INC.  
ARCHITECTS • ENGINEERS • SURVYORS



## USACE Beach Replenishment Ends



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project, which cost \$19,284,320, and moved 1,437,000 cubic yards of sand to rebuild dune and beach in Bethany, South Bethany and Fenwick Island, is now complete with the planting of beach grass in these communities.

Workers from the USACE subcontractor were on site over the last few weeks and completed dune grass plantings up and down the coast.

We would be remiss if we did not once again thank our Congressional delegation for their hard work on our behalf. Their tireless efforts procured the funding for this project and has given us our beach and protective dune back! Special thanks to Senator Carper, who is relentless in his work to restore and sustain all of Delaware's beaches. Thank you.

## Town Participates in Community Rating System

The Town recently completed the 5-year cycle of verification for our participation in the CRS (Community Rating System) program to maintain the Town's participation in, and the Town's Class rating in the program. This is the program that allows residents to claim a discount on their flood insurance.

There was a significant change from the 2007 manual to the 2017 manual and application.

The new manual and application require much more detailed information and the Town managed to maintain the Town's Class 8 rating which affords the community a 10% discount on their flood insurance!

The Town's participation in ARC GIS mapping system helped determine the actual size of the Town's Special Flood Hazard Area (now approximately 86% of the Town's area, an increase of 20% from the previous maps) and the size of the Town's open space, both of which we get credits for.

We also got credit for collecting and maintaining the elevation certificates for properties in the SFHA. An ISO specialist reviewed all the elevation certificates for new construction from the last 5 years and corrections were made to achieve a 90% correct total.

The Town's mapping of beach erosion and the gauges in the loop canal were also new activities that were added and were worth additional credit.

Other programs such as map information services and annual outreach programs to the community helped with our recertification.

### DID YOU KNOW?

80 – 90% OF THE TOWN IS UNDER SEA LEVEL THE LOOP CANAL, THE ASSAWOMAN CANAL, THE SALT POND, THE SEA COLONY CULVERT (ALL ESSENTIALLY TIDAL CANALS) AND THE ATLANTIC OCEAN SURROUND 9/10TH OF BETHANY BEACH.

## Important Numbers

**Beach Patrol:**  
302-539-8114

**Building Inspector:**  
302-539-8780

**Chamber of Commerce**  
302-539-2100

**Emergency:**  
911

**Events Hotline:**  
302-539-5484

**Fire Department:**  
302-539-7700

**Nature Center:**  
302-539-7680

**Parking Supervisor:**  
302-539-1000

**Police Department:**  
302-539-1000

**Public Works Department:**  
302-539-1339

**South Coastal Library:**  
302-539-5231

**Town Hall:**  
302-539-8011

**Town Manager:**  
302-537-3771

**Water Department:**  
302-537-0851

## Renovation of the Historic Dinker/Irvin Cottage

The restoration of the Dinker/Irvin Cottage, the future home of the Town's Museum, is well under way and will be complete in March.

The home was the residence of William Dinker who was one of the founders of our community, the first President of the Bethany Beach Improvement Company and the signatory on the Town's application for incorporation with the State of Delaware. The original home was built in 1902 and was moved to Garfield Parkway Extended in the 1920's where it served for a period of time as the Bethany Beach Post Office.



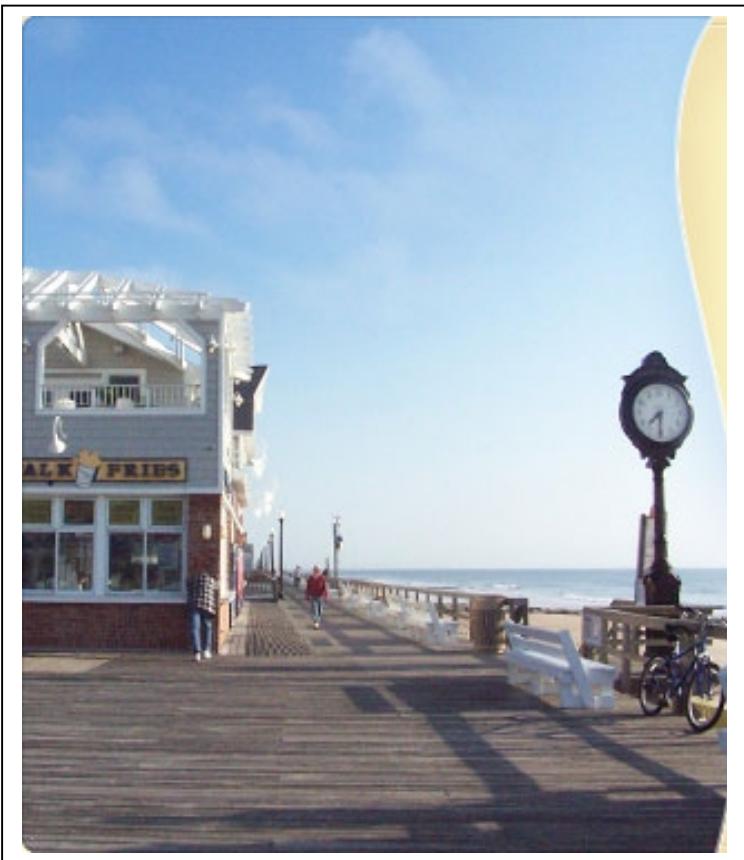
## Save the Date(s) for These Special Events Happening in Bethany Beach.

### 2019 Bethany Beach Patrol Open Lifeguard Tryouts:

Saturday, March 30, 2019 - 9:00am  
 Saturday, April 6, 2019 - 9:00am

Both tryouts will be held at the Sea Colony  
 Swim and Fitness Center

Interested applicants should contact Lifeguard Captain  
 Donnelly at 302-430-8013 for more information.



For information on these and other events  
 visit [www.townofbethanybeach.com](http://www.townofbethanybeach.com)  
 and click on Activities.

Poseidon Festival  
 Memorial Day Weekend  
 May 24 - 27, 2019

**POSEIDON FESTIVAL**  
**BEGINS**  
**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
*On the Beach and Bandstand*

[www.townofbethanybeach.com](http://www.townofbethanybeach.com)

15<sup>th</sup> Annual Seaside Craft Show  
 Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Open Call for Fine Crafters

**CALL FOR FINE CRAFTERS**  
 Bethany Beach Seaside Craft Show

Saturday, June 1st, 2019



Fine crafters may apply by downloading  
 the application from our website.