



In The Park

**CAPE HATTERAS
NATIONAL SEASHORE**

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Fall, Winter and Spring

2009-2010





Welcome To The Park

In The Park is produced by the National Park Service and funded with the support of Eastern National.



Eastern National is a non-profit organization that provides quality educational products and services to the visitors to America's national parks and other public trusts. Eastern National operates educational outlets in over 170 national parks and public lands in 30 states. Since 1947, Eastern National has donated over \$89 million to the National Park Service. For more information, visit www.easternnational.org. Check out our sales items on the back page, visit our bookstores in the parks or visit us online at www.eparks.com.

Cover Photo

The beauty and wonders of Cape Hatteras National Seashore are seen in both the cultural icons and natural vibrancy of these special barrier islands.

Photo by: Jeff Linn
www.jefflinn.com

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Superintendent Michael B. Murray

Superintendent's Message

National parks have always been places to recreate, relax and create memories. They are part of our individual pasts and our collective memory as a country. Setting aside public land is a defining characteristic of our national identity. Today, national parks are of growing importance to this nation. The amount of time children spend outdoors is shrinking, along with the amount of open space in our country.

The national parks of the Outer Banks provide endless opportunities to explore, discover, and spend time with loved ones. In these parks, you can share the excitement of colonists who risked everything to discover a new world. You can feel the exhilaration of two brothers when their dream of the impossible became a reality. You can discover the wonders of barrier islands and the creatures that call them home. These are your parks and your places to treasure for years to come. We thank you for making our nation's heritage part of your family tradition and look forward to seeing you out in the parks!



photo credit: Joyce Edwards

Be A Junior Ranger!

Becoming a Junior Ranger is a fun way to learn more about our parks and how you can help protect them – just like the park rangers that you meet. The Junior Ranger programs at Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Fort Raleigh National Historic Site and Wright Brothers National Memorial are for ages 5 to 13.

Along the Outer Banks, during the fall, winter and spring, you can actually become three different kinds of Junior Rangers -- a Seashore Ranger at Cape Hatteras National Seashore, a Flight Ranger at Wright Brothers National Memorial, and a Roanoke Ranger at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site. Just go to the visitor centers located at these national park sites and a staff person will

give you a booklet to get you started.

At Cape Hatteras National Seashore, if you complete the workbook, you will earn a Junior Ranger badge. Get your booklet from any of the three Seashore visitor centers located at the Bodie Island Lighthouse, the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse and near the ferry dock in Ocracoke Village.

You will earn a Flight Ranger patch at Wright Brothers National Memorial when you complete your booklet and attend one ranger program.

At Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, you can earn a Roanoke Ranger patch when you attend ranger programs and complete the booklet at any time of the year. You can also become a Fort Raleigh

Web Ranger and earn a Junior Ranger badge when you visit the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/fora>. Just print out your worksheets, answer the questions, and mail the worksheets to the park.

Remember to bring your completed booklets back to the national park site where you obtained them so you can get your Junior Ranger award. If you need someone to help you finish the booklet, ask one of your parents or one of our park rangers.

The North Carolina Beach Buggy Association, the First Flight Society, and Eastern National help us in providing these Junior Ranger programs to you.

We want your visit to the seashore to be safe and enjoyable. By following these guidelines, we can all protect and maintain this spectacular area.



Where Can We Camp?

Camping on the national seashore is permitted only in designated campgrounds at Oregon Inlet, Cape Point, Frisco and Ocracoke. Availability is on a first-come, first-served basis except at Ocracoke, where you may make reservations by calling Reserve America at (877) 444-6777. The cost is \$20 per site, except at Ocracoke; it is \$23. Oregon Inlet and Frisco campgrounds will close Monday, October 12, 2009. Ocracoke will close October 26, 2009. Camping on the beach overnight, whether in a tent or in your vehicle, is not permitted.

Is It Okay To Have a Beer On the Beach?

Some alcoholic beverages are permitted in the seashore, but consider the following:

- The laws of North Carolina do not permit spirituous liquors — distilled liquors, whiskey, vodka, etc. — or fortified wines to be consumed in public. Ask where you buy your wine if you are unsure what's fortified and what's not.

- The legal drinking age in North Carolina is 21.
- Open containers of alcohol are not permitted within any motor vehicle, including vehicles on the beach.

Please be sure to put all your cans and bottles in the trash so you're not creating a hazard.

Can I Fish at the Seashore?

In a word, yes. But be aware that fishing within Cape Hatteras national seashore is regulated by state law. It is a state requirement that all people fishing in the National Seashore must possess a Coastal Recreational Fishing License. Regulations regarding size limits, numbers of fish per day, seasons and licensing requirements are set by the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries at (800) 682-2632. Limit sheets are available at local tackle shops.



What About Launching My Personal Watercraft?

The trailering, launching or landing of personal watercraft of any kind (Jet Skis, Waverunners) is not allowed within the boundaries of Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

How About a Beach Campfire?

Fires are permitted on the park's beaches except from 12 a.m. to 6 a.m., year-round. The fires must, however, be at least 100 feet from any grasses or dunes and below the high tide line. Please keep the fires small.



Boards containing nails and other debris should not be used in the fire since they create a hazard to bare feet. When putting the fires out, please use water. Burying the embers with sand allows the fire to smolder, making the sand covering the fire very hot — an obvious safety problem.

What About Handicapped Beach Access?

Handicapped-limited beach access permits are available from Cape Hatteras National Seashore Headquarters by calling (252) 473-2111. Beach-capable wheelchairs are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Inquire at the park visitor centers.

May We Shoot Fireworks?

No. Fireworks are not allowed in any National Park Service area. Fireworks are not allowed in Nags Head or on Hatteras or Ocracoke Islands.

Where Can I Fly My Kite?

Kite flying and throwing Frisbees or balls is permitted anywhere in the seashore except within or over any bird closure. These activities can scare birds off their nests, leaving eggs and chicks exposed to predators and deadly heat.

Remember:
Call 911 to report emergencies.

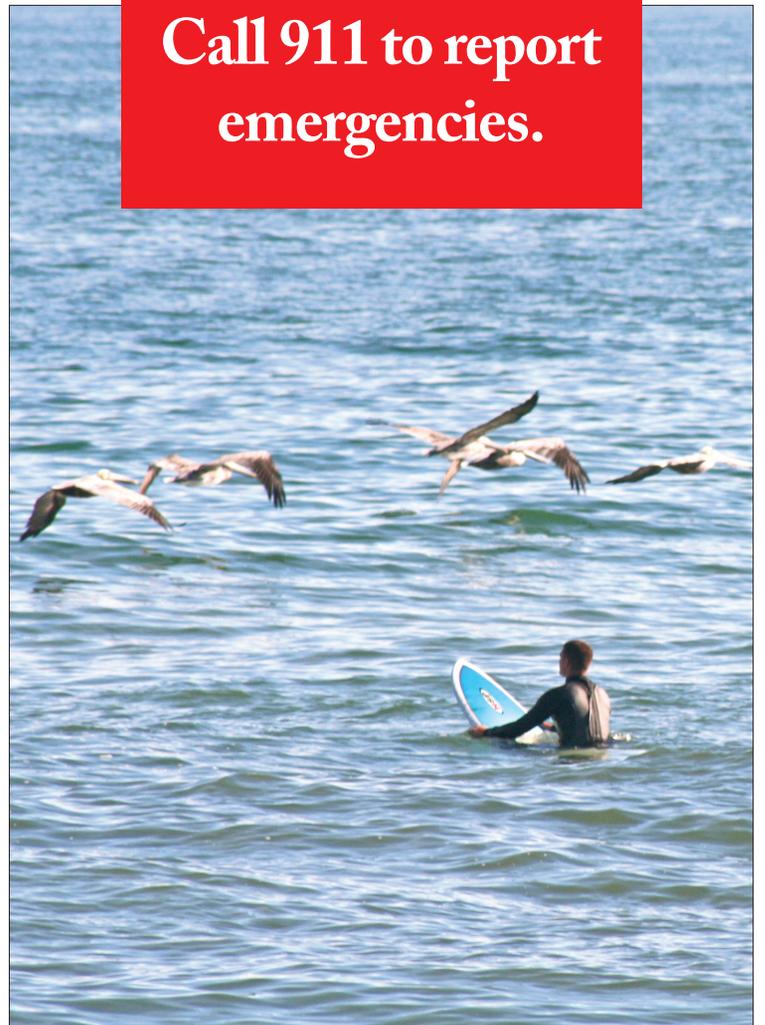


photo credit: Quinn Capps

What If My Pet Comes On Vacation?

Your pets are welcome at Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Pet must be on a 6' leash at all times and are prohibited within any resource closure. Pets are not allowed on designated swim beaches or in buildings. Please, for your pet's sake, do not leave them unattended. For other visitors' sake, clean up after your pet. And, if your pet is a horse ... that's ok too! You may ride them anywhere vehicles are permitted to drive except in NPS campgrounds. Riders must use ORV ramps when crossing dunes.



May I Hunt For Hidden Treasure With My Metal Detector?

No. Because of the vast wealth of historic artifacts within national parks, use of metal detectors are prohibited by law in all areas, including beaches and campgrounds.

What If I Find Shipwrecks Or Other Treasures On the Beach?

All items found on the beach, with the exception of unoccupied seashells and driftwood, are protected by law and may not be removed from the beach. Please do not disturb any shipwrecks that may wash up or be uncovered by the ocean or wind.

For information on Beach Driving, see page 5.

Swimming Safety

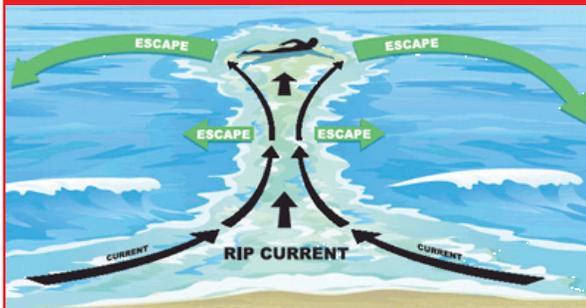
The ocean is a wonderful place to swim — if you are careful. Strong wave energy, rough surf and rip currents can turn a quick dip into a problem.

Clues for Spotting a Rip Current:

- a channel of churning, choppy water
- an area having a notable difference in water color
- a line of foam, seaweed, or debris moving steadily seaward
- a break in the incoming wave pattern



IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT...



- **Don't fight the current.**
- **Swim parallel to the shore to get out of the current.**
- **If you can't escape, float or tread water.**
- **If you need help, call or wave for assistance.**

More Safety Tips

- Due to dangerous currents, never swim in inlets.
- Do not swim alone, at night, or near fishing piers. Children should swim only with adult supervision.
- Know the various types of ocean currents and how to get out of them.
- Watch the weather. Storms and squalls come up quickly.

- Don't swim during thunderstorms. Lightning is extremely dangerous and does strike the beach.
- Non-swimmers should use Coast Guard-approved flotation vests, even while wading.
- Be careful at the shore's edge. The force of crashing waves can pick you up and throw you into the sandy bottom, which may result

- in fractures, dislocations or possibly fatal neck injuries.
- Watch for jellyfish. If stung, seek first aid if needed. Pour on vinegar to stop the stinging, but don't rub.
- Do not swim near surfers. The surfboard's fin can cut you.
- Always use sunscreen.

Bugs!!!

Mosquitoes and other insects serve a purpose in the scheme of things. Nonetheless, they are nuisances and can make your trip an ordeal. Be prepared with mosquito repellent and netting for camping and other island-related activities. After hiking be sure to check yourself for ticks.

Avoid the "Ouch"

Our seashore is beautiful, but often, on the beach and in the sand, you'll find dangerous debris. You may come across sharp objects such as broken seashells, crabs, cactus and spurs. People add to that with glass, metal, fishhooks and nails. HOT SAND can burn unprotected feet. Think safety before leaving your vehicle. Protect your feet from these hazards.

What to Do During a Hurricane

Watch

- Listen regularly to a NOAA Weather Radio or local radio stations for updated information. Hurricanes can change direction, intensity and speed very suddenly. A storm that was a minor threat several hours ago can quickly escalate to a major threat.
- Fill your car's gas tank. If advised to evacuate, you may be caught in traffic, idling for long periods of time. Gas stations along the route may be closed.
- Listen to the advice of local officials and evacuate if they tell you to do so.
- Others will be concerned about your safety, so call a loved one or friend outside of the storm area. Tell them that you are aware of the storm and advise them of your plans.

Warning

- Keep posted to local radio stations for updated information and official instructions. Local officials will advise leaving only if they truly believe your location is in danger. It is important to follow their instructions as soon as possible. It takes many hours for an organized evacuation. Roads may become blocked as the storm conditions worsen, preventing a safe escape.
- Call your check-in contact so someone will know where you will go in case of an evacuation.
- Pack all of your belongings to save time if the evacuation is announced.
- Check before returning to the Outer Banks. The area may remain closed to visitors for several days after a storm passes.

Photo and graphic credit: NOAA and U.S. Lifesaving Association





Off-Road Vehicle *Management Planning and Regulation*

The National Park Service (NPS) is developing an off-road vehicle (ORV) management plan and regulation for Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

The ORV plan is being developed through the required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. The ORV plan will address resource protection (including protected, threatened and endangered species), visitor safety, and potential conflicts among various park users. The plan will also ensure that ORV use is managed within applicable law, including the park's enabling legislation, which provides Congress' intent for the management and use of the park. A draft

environmental impact statement is expected to be ready for public review and comment during the fall of 2009. The target date for completion of the plan is December 31, 2010.

Rulemaking is the process used by federal agencies to formulate, amend or repeal a regulation. In the traditional agency rulemaking process, the agency alone produces a proposed regulation. Negotiated rulemaking is an optional process that establishes a negotiated rulemaking advisory committee consisting of the agency and interest groups involved in the issue to collaborate on a proposed solution.

In December 2006, the Sec-

retary of the Interior established a negotiated rulemaking committee to assist the NPS with the development of an ORV management alternative and regulation for Cape Hatteras National Seashore. The committee completed its work in March 2009. Although the committee did not reach consensus on an ORV management recommendation, the NPS will consider the committee's work and advice as it prepares the plan through the NEPA process and the regulation through the traditional rulemaking process. The target date for completion of the ORV regulation is April 1, 2011.

Consent Decree

In October 2007, Defenders of Wildlife and the National Audubon Society, represented by the Southern Environmental Law Center (plaintiffs), filed a lawsuit against the NPS alleging inadequacies in management of protected species at Cape Hatteras National Seashore and failure of the park to comply with the requirements of off-road vehicle (ORV) executive orders and NPS regulations regarding ORV use.

The species identified for protection included the piping plover (federally listed threatened), several species of colonial waterbirds (state-listed threatened and species of concern), the American oystercatcher (state-listed species of special concern) and several species of

sea turtles (federally listed threatened and endangered).

In April 2008, a U.S. District Court Judge signed a consent decree to settle the lawsuit. The consent decree was agreed to by the plaintiffs and the NPS and by Dare and Hyde counties and a coalition of local ORV and sport fishing groups (Cape Hatteras Access Preservation Alliance), which participated in the lawsuit as interveners. The consent decree, which is enforceable by the court, provides for specific species protection mandates and requires the NPS to complete an ORV plan and required special regulation by December 31, 2010 and April 11, 2011 respectively.

To meet the legal requirements of the consent decree, the NPS must: (1) increase the frequency and degree of monitoring and protection of certain shorebird and

all sea turtle species; (2) establish and enforce larger protective closure areas around nesting areas; (3) mark, monitor and enforce pedestrian and ORV corridors along the shoreline; and (4) enforce a prohibition of vehicles on seashore beaches between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., May 1 - November 15, with a permit system to be established for night driving September 16 - November 15.

Under the consent decree, if violations of protected species closures disturb or harass wildlife or vandalize closure fencing, nests or plants, then the closure boundaries are mandated to expand an additional 50 meters for the first violation, 100 meters for the second and 500 meters or more for the third. The penalties of closure violations include a fine of up to \$5,000 and/or imprisonment up to 6 months.

Accessing Park Beaches With Your **ORV**

The National Park Service welcomes visitors to enjoy the beautiful, undeveloped ocean beaches of Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

Some sections of ocean beach, such as those in front of the Hatteras Island villages, receive significant pedestrian use during the summer. These beaches are open to pedestrian use year-round but are temporarily closed to ORV use during the summer.

Although extremely narrow beaches stay open for pedestrian use, they may temporarily close to ORV traffic due to safety concerns.

Some portions of the beach may be temporarily closed to ORV use due to mandated protection of wildlife and plant species, such as protected birds and sea turtles. Closure boundaries may shrink or expand given the specific behavior or requirements of the protected wildlife. In the event of ORV closures, alternate routes or bypasses may be established to maintain access.

For current beach access information, visit one of the Seashore visitor centers.

When taking an ORV on park beaches, remember:

- Protected species closure violations that disturb or harass wildlife, or vandalizes fencing, nests, or plants are mandated to expand 50 meters for the first violation, 100 meters for the second, and 500 meters or more for the third. Closure violations may have up to a \$5,000 fine and or imprisonment up to 6 months in jail.
- Drive only four-wheel-drive vehicles on the beach.
- Vehicles are not allowed on park beaches 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. from May 1 to Sept. 15. A night driving permit is required Sept. 16 to Nov. 15. Permits are available at NPS visitor centers and online at www.nps.gov/caha.
- Before entering the beach, lower tire air pressure to 20 psi or less. Lowering tire pressure and driving at a slow steady rate of speed are the best ways to provide enough traction for a vehicle to maneuver. If stuck, lower tire pressure more. If your wheels start to spin, slowly back up in your tire tracks for several car lengths and then slowly accelerate forward.
- Be aware of tide changes and don't get trapped -- some sections of beach can be cut off by high tides.
- Any law applicable to vehicle use on a paved road in the State of North Carolina also applies to ORV use.
- Avoid driving or parking on the wrack line. The wrack line is a line of stranded natural debris on the beach left by the previous high tide that can be an important food source for protected birds.
- The maximum speed limit is 25 m.p.h. unless otherwise posted.
- Driving or parking on dunes and/or vegetation is strictly prohibited. Access the beach only by designated ramps.

To keep updated on the planning process, go to <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha>. To join the park's ORV planning update list-serve, send an email to caha_orv_mgt@nps.gov.

Epic Migration of Shorebirds



photo credit: Jeff Lewis

Whimbrels are among the many bird species that use the seashore as an important migratory resting ground.

What You Can Do to Help!

- Keep your dog on a leash and do not let it chase shorebirds. By flushing birds, dogs rob shorebirds of critical resting and feeding time needed on their long migration.
- Reduce human disturbance. Walk or drive around – not through -- flocks of feeding and resting shorebirds.
- Respect bird closures by not entering posted areas.
- Do not feed wildlife in the park. Your treats can help increase populations of predators such as raccoons or gulls, which also prey on shorebirds.

Like clockwork, they begin to arrive. As predictable as the rhythm of the ocean waves and tides, the first wave of migrating shorebirds appears on the beaches in late July and continues through October or even November. It is a predictable wonderment of nature that repeats itself each spring and fall. Tens of thousands of shorebirds migrate through Cape Hatteras National Seashore. More than 20 species can be observed, ranging

from the sparrow-sized piping plovers and sandpipers to the crow-sized American oystercatchers and whimbrels. Though some linger here for several months, the stay for most is but a brief respite on a long, epic journey. These birds are globetrotters, flying twice each year between continents and hemispheres. Each migration can cover several thousand miles, much over open ocean water. Fall migration is the most impressive in both numbers

and displays. Adults combined with newly fledged young leave nesting grounds in the high Arctic tundra flying south with weather fronts. On beaches used as stopovers such as Cape Hatteras, thousands of shorebirds literally appear overnight as fronts push through. Their final destinations are most often Central and South America. Spring migration returning to the breeding grounds is less dramatic. Weather is less important

in pushing migrants north. Also, numbers are diminished since not all birds survive the winter and some young birds may not go north to breed their first year.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore serves as a vital resting and feeding stopover for these long distant migrants. The greatest numbers and highest diversity of species utilize inlet sites. With falling tides, species such as sanderling, willet and red knot feast on coquina clams, mole crabs and other burrowing invertebrates. Most sandpipers prefer wet sandflats where they gorge on marine worms. Rudy turnstones flip through the wrack line searching for insects and sandfleas. Birds often double their body fat in a matter of days. Ample resting and preening time is equally essential to completing a successful migration. Once recharged and refueled, the shorebirds will continue along their migration route, often as a non-stop flight all the way to South America.

Park staff conducts migratory and wintering shorebird surveys three times per month at the spits and Cape Point. These surveys help identify the park as an important stopover for migrating birds. It also helps document the use of these areas by wintering shorebirds.

Many shorebird populations are in decline. Biologists believe the loss of undisturbed resting and feeding habitat along the migration routes is one of the causes. At Cape Hatteras National Seashore, seasonal closures of suitable interior habitat are established near the inlets and Cape Point to protect migrant piping plovers, a federally threatened shorebird species. These closures benefit many other shorebirds as well. It gives worn out birds the chance to successfully revitalize and refuel before taking to the wing once again to complete their remarkable journeys – a natural wonder that we are fortunate to witness along the seashore.



Sea Turtle Facts

Threatened loggerhead and green sea turtles and the endangered leatherback sea turtles nest during the summer months at Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Most sea turtles are long-

lived animals that usually do not lay eggs until 20 to 25 years old.

Sea turtles usually nest at night and tend to avoid beaches with lights. Each turtle nest can contain more than 100 eggs. Eggs will hatch in approximately two months, although sand temperatures can lengthen or shorten the incubation time. Hatchlings usually emerge after dark and rely on natural light reflecting off the ocean to find their way. Light from human activities can fatally disorient hatchlings. All species of sea turtles and their nests are protected by state and federal law.

Help protect sea turtles:

- Please stay out of posted turtle nest sites.
- Never approach a nesting female.
- Do not shine any lights at nesting turtles or emerging hatchlings.
- Build campfires well away from posted nest sites.
- Turn off all unnecessary house lights near the beach.
- Report any turtle activity by calling (252) 216-6892.

In The
PARK

Be a Volunteer!

In America, we love our national parks. A recent survey has shown the National Park Service to be the second-highest rated of all federal agencies in positive public perception (the Postal Service being first). Last year, more than 273 million people visited the national parks, and 175,000 volunteers donated more than 5 million hours of service to help preserve and protect our nation's valuable natural and cultural resources.

Volunteers come to our national parks because they, like you, care about these special places and want to make a contribution – sharing their passion and knowledge.

We enthusiastically salute the 99 dedicated volunteers who donated more than 18,383 hours to Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Wright Brothers National Memorial and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site last year! Their time and effort helped us meet our mission of protecting resources and providing for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations.

The Outer Banks Group volunteers, ranging from students to retirees, are always hard at work both in the public eye and behind the scenes:

- Greeting and educating the public at our visitor centers, campgrounds and lighthouses;
- Collecting information for research on protected turtle and bird species;
- Patrolling the beaches to save lives by teaching water safety;
- Feeding and caring for the Ocracoke pony herd;
- Leading explorations of park resources through bird walks, surf fishing, seining and cast netting; and
- Leading beach clean-up efforts.

If you want to do more to care for national parks, you can visit the federal volunteer website www.volunteer.gov/gov and check out the latest Outer Banks Group parks' volunteer opportunities. Or, if you have specific volunteer activities in mind, call (252) 473-2111.

And if you meet some of our volunteers during your visit, thank them for caring for the national parks too!



Adopt an Ocracoke Pony

Stop and visit the Ocracoke ponies when you make your trip to Ocracoke Island.

No one knows the “Banker Ponies” beginnings for certain, but some of the answer may be from the thousands of shipwrecks that are part of the area's history. While small and powerful, they are full-grown horses whose ancestors roamed the islands for hundreds of years.

When the early colonists settled Ocracoke, they used the ponies to help make life easier on the island by pulling carts and hauling freight and fish. The U.S. Lifesaving Service personnel used them while they were patrolling the beach looking for shipwreck victims. As time progressed, the families that lived on the island claimed the ponies and had a pony penning each summer. After World War II, automobiles and ferry service came to the island. In order to protect the ponies from automobile traffic, they were eventually fenced in the pasture that remains today. The National Park Service assumed the care of the ponies in the mid 1960s at the request of the Ocracoke natives.



Taking care of the Ocracoke herd takes both time and money -- an unexpected illness to just one of the ponies can cost hundreds of dollars in veterinarian fees. The fences in the pasture, hay, grain and customary care from the veterinarian and blacksmith are funded in large part by donations from the donation box at the viewing platform.

You can help by adopting a pony. To adopt and choose your pony, visit the Ocracoke Island Visitor Center, located in Oc-

racoke Village alongside Silver Lake and next to the Cedar Island/Swan Quarter Ferry terminal. For a donation of \$25, you will receive a photograph and certificate in a presentation folder attesting that you are one of the adoptive parents of that pony. You may also adopt by mail by sending a \$27 check or money order made out to the National Park Service to: Ocracoke Ranger Station, P.O. Box 340, Ocracoke, NC 27960



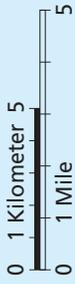
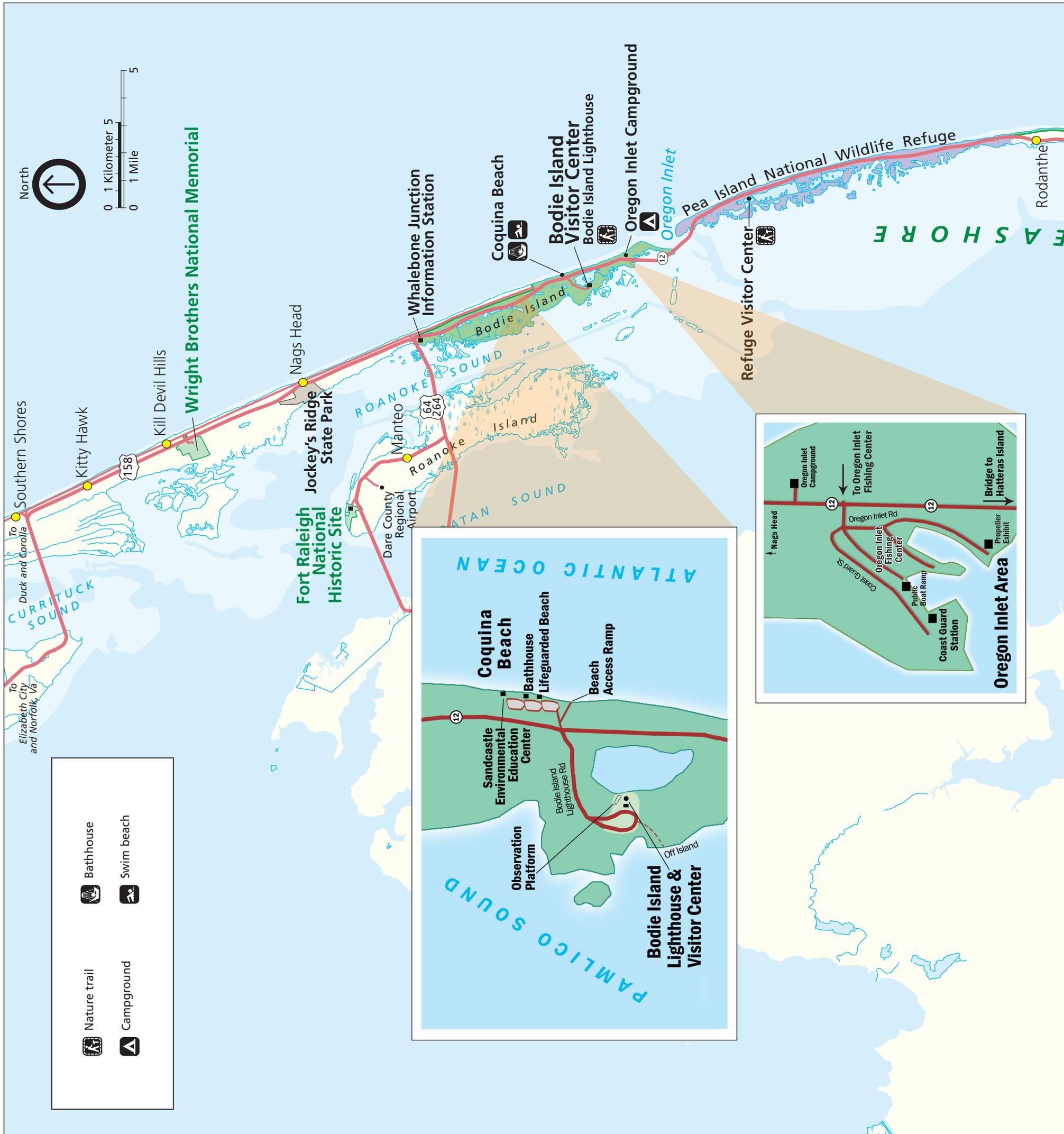
Steve Jones, Joe Hardman & Jerry Raveling have each contributed over 5,000 hours to Wright Brothers National Memorial, earning them the Outer Banks Group Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award!

Helping *America's Best Idea*

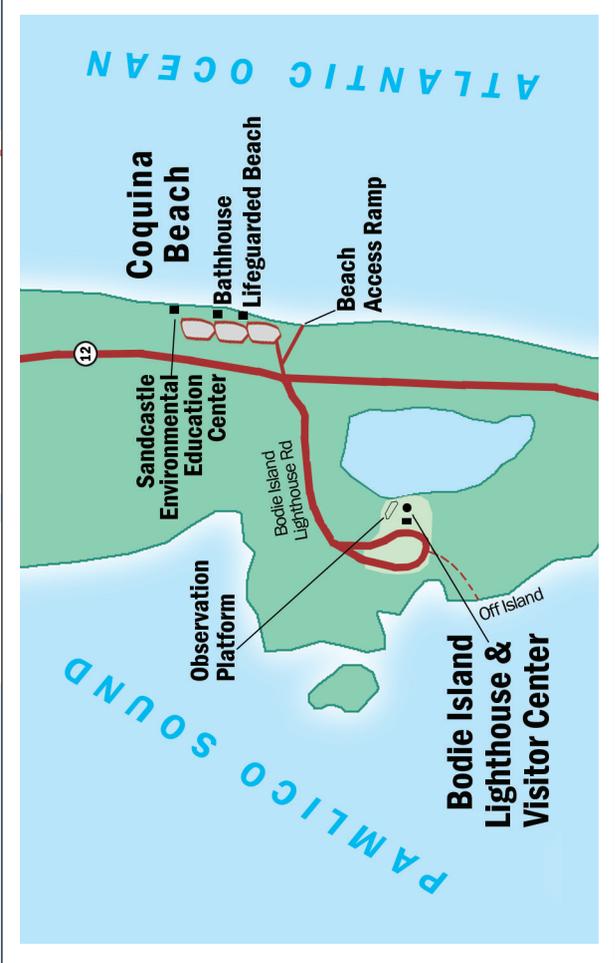


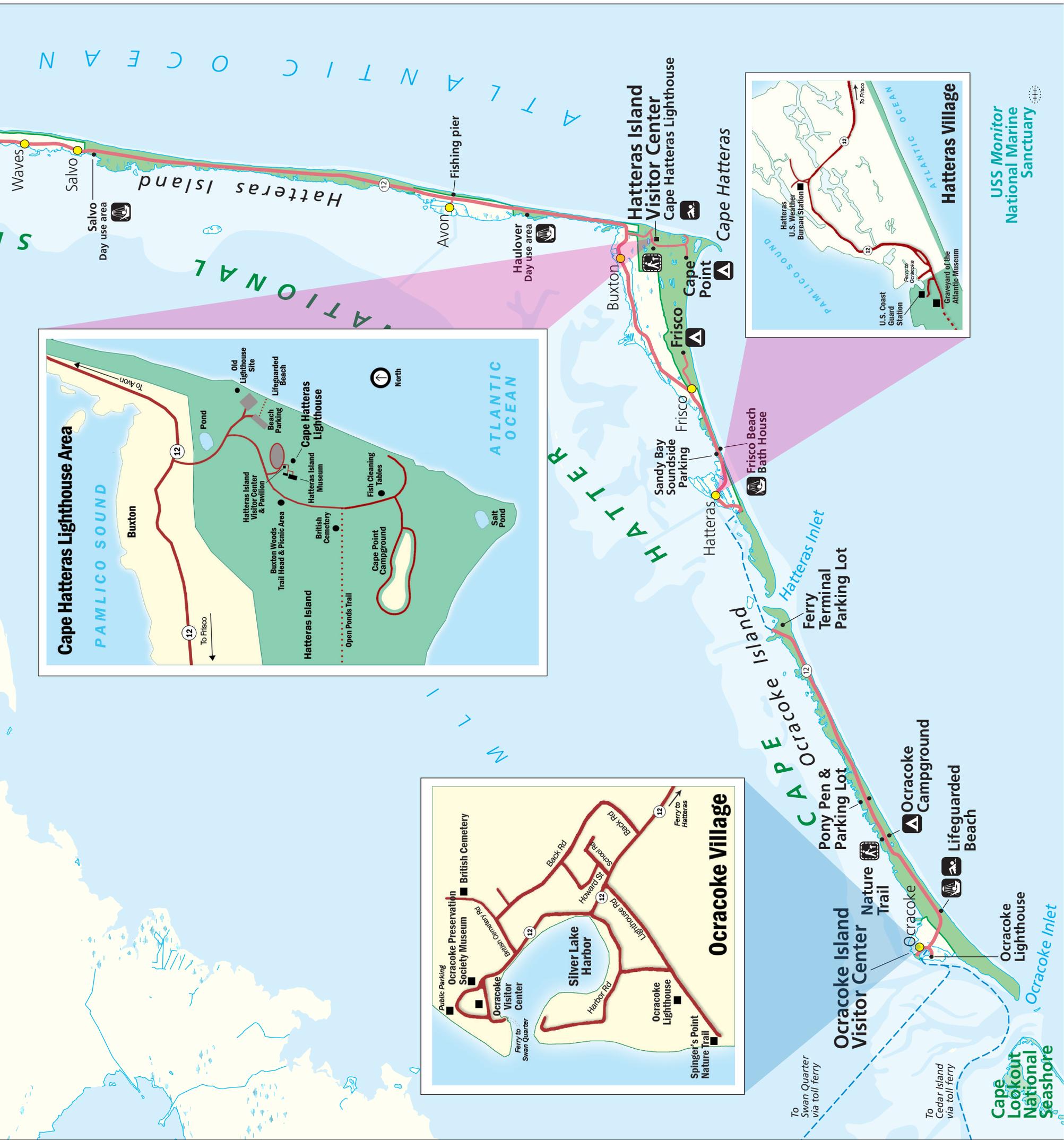
Do you want to support our parks, but can't volunteer? Many people opt to make a difference by providing gifts to the parks. You can make direct cash or check gifts at the donation boxes located in each of the parks, or you can mail your gift to Outer Banks Group, 1401 National Park Drive, Manteo, NC 27954. You can give a gift to a specific park: Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, Wright Brothers National Memorial, or Cape Hatteras National Seashore – or simply to the Outer Banks Group, which oversees all three. Also, you can earmark a gift for a specific purpose, such as education programming, and the entire gift will be used for that purpose. Your check will be deposited in a government account; government accounts are non-interest bearing and cannot generate interest between the time it is deposited and the time it is spent.

Be it gift, volunteering, or teaching your children the value of our national parks, there are many ways to donate. Regardless of what form it takes, your donation is greatly appreciated!



-  Nature trail
-  Campground
-  Bathhouse
-  Swim beach





USS Monitor
National Marine
Sanctuary

Things to Do on **Bodie Island**

(see map pages 8 & 9 for locations) [approximate GPS]



- **Spend a Day at the Beach**

The Coquina Beach Day Use area, located across from the entrance to the Bodie Island Lighthouse on NC-12, is the perfect place to spend a beach day with your family. This area offers parking and a boardwalk for easy accessibility. [35.832158, -75.558794]

- **Go Fishing**

Surf fishing is a popular activity along the seashore and most of the beach and sound is open to fishing. You will need a NC Coastal Recreational Fishing License, which can be purchased at one of the numerous local tackle shops while finding bait, equipment, and fishing tips.

- **Bodie Island Lighthouse and Visitor Center**

You can visit the grounds of the Bodie Island Lighthouse day or

night. At night, you can witness the beauty and craftsmanship of the historic Fresnel lens, shipped from Paris in 1871. Be sure to stop at the visitor center and Eastern National bookstore in the historic Double Keepers' Quarters. Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. [35.818614, -75.563514]

- **Go Birding**

Whether you are a beginner or an expert, the marshes and ponds behind the Bodie Island Lighthouse offer a variety of species. There are boardwalks and observation decks overlooking the area. [35.818614, -75.563514]

- **Propeller Exhibit**

At the end of the Oregon Inlet Marina parking area, you will find a large propeller that belonged to the *Dionysus*, a Liberty ship built in Baltimore in 1944. This ship served in the Pacific during WWII and in the Korean

War. In 1978, the ship was sunk southeast of Oregon Inlet as part of an artificial reef program. [35.794625, -75.548193]

- **Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge**

South of the Oregon Inlet bridge is Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge visitor center is 8 miles south of Bodie Island Lighthouse and has much to offer about the wildlife of the area. Across from the refuge visitor center, you can see the *Oriental*, a Civil War steamer that wrecked in 1862. [35.716731, -75.493830]

- **Explore the Sound**

New Inlet opened during a 1933 hurricane, but, soon after a bridge was erected, the inlet closed. Now, this soundside access is great place to put in a kayak or explore the sound. [35.675265, -75.481052]

13th Annual Wings Over Water Festival



A Celebration of Wildlife & Wildlands
in Eastern North Carolina

November 3-8, 2009

(252) 216-WING • www.wingsoverwater.org



Visit the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse

Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

Sept. 8 to Oct. 12, 2009

Reopens April 16, 2010

\$7 per adult, \$3.50 for seniors, age 62 and older, the disabled, and children younger than 12.

Children **MUST** be at least 42" tall to climb.

The Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is the tallest brick lighthouse in the world. Constructed in 1870, it stands 198.5 feet tall. It was built to help ships navigate around Diamond Shoals off Cape Hatteras, one of the most dangerous sites on the Atlantic Coast. The shoals are a complex of underwater sand bars that constantly move and shift. Ships caught in heavy seas and wind would be washed upon the shoals. Waves breaking on the shoals would simply rip the ships apart. Hundreds and possibly thousands of shipwrecks in this area have given it the reputation as the "Graveyard of the Atlantic."

The lighthouse was moved in 1999 when threatened by the encroaching sea.

Things to Do on Hatteras Island

(see map pages 8 & 9 for locations) [approximate GPS]



- **Old Lighthouse Site**

In 1999, the Cape Hatteras lighthouse was moved 2900 feet. Today, the original site for this lighthouse is marked with granite blocks engraved with the names of the former lighthouse keepers. [35.254871, -75.523024]

- **Visit the Beach**

Seashore beaches are ideal for fishing and shell hunting. Please do not take shells with the animals still in them. Take only empty shells. [35.254871, -75.523024]

- **Go Birding**

Whether you are a beginner or an expert, Hatteras Island is a great place to see a variety of bird species. The ponds along the road entering the lighthouse area are a good place to start.

- **Hatteras Island Visitor Center/Bookstore**

Located near the lighthouse,

the visitor center and bookstore is your stop for orientation and educational sales items. Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. [35.25124, -75.52842]

- **Hatteras Island Museum**

The Hatteras Island Museum is located inside the Double Keepers' Quarters next to the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. Learn about shipwrecks, U-boats, the U.S. Life-Saving Service and more. Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. [35.251222, -75.530008]

- **Buxton Woods Trail**

Explore the Buxton Woods Trail, a ¾-mile loop, located near the entrance road to Cape Hatteras Lighthouse parking lot. Enjoy the shade and experience a maritime forest with its variety of birds, deer, and other creatures. Picnic tables are available. [35.252913, -75.528989]

- **Explore the Sound**

Explore the sound side of the islands. Salvo Day Use Area and Haulover Day Use Area offer parking and access to the water.

- **Hatteras Island U.S. Weather Bureau Station**

Located in Hatteras Village, this 1901 U.S. Weather Bureau is now an Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Welcome Center. Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The center closes December 31 and will reopen March 1. [35.220486, -75.690576]

- **Civil War Markers**

The barrier islands hold a rich and unique Civil War history. Visit various markers on Hatteras Island including those located in the parking area of the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum [35.206285, -75.703772] and across from the Weather Station in Hatteras Village. [35.220486, -75.690576]

Things to Do on Ocracoke Island

(see map pages 8 & 9 for locations) [approximate GPS]



- **Ocracoke Island Visitor Center/Bookstore**

In the village by the ferry docks, the visitor center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and has exhibits on key moments in island history and an excellent selection of bookstore items. [35.116240, -75.986250]

- **Bask at the Beach**

The Ocracoke Day Use Area, just north of the village, offers parking and a boardwalk for easy accessibility. [35.108025, -75.954001]

- **Ocracoke Lighthouse**

The oldest (1823) operating lighthouse in North Carolina has very limited parking, so try biking or walking there. [35.108438, -75.984907]

- **Go Birding**

Ocracoke is a great place to enjoy birding! Try South Point Road or the ponds at the north end of the island near the ferry docks.

- **Ocracoke Ponies**

The Banker ponies are an important part of island history. The pony pens are seven miles north of the village. Picnic tables are available. [35.148113, -75.871496]

- **Hammock Hills Nature Trail**

From the forest to the salt marsh, this ¾-mile signed loop trail identifies unique plants and animals. The trailhead is across from the National Park Service campground. [35.126262, -75.923896]

- **Springer's Point Trail**

Within this NC Coastal Land Trust nature preserve, a 1/2-mile loop trail begins on Loop Road, passes through old maritime forest and leads to the Pamlico Sound. Teach's Hole Channel, a popular fishing spot, is where Lt. Robert Maynard killed the pirate Blackbeard. There is no parking at the trailhead.

- **Civil War Memorial**

Located in the grassy area at the end of the public parking lot, one marker panel commemorates Fort Ocracoke; the other, Portsmouth and Ocracoke soldiers from both sides of the war.

- **British Cemetery**

Here lay the remains of four British sailors whose bodies washed ashore after their WWII ship was attacked by a German submarine. This land was donated to Britain and is maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard. [35.11625, -75.981344]

- **Howard Street**

Stroll down one of our oldest streets. In seeing the large live oaks and feeling the oyster shells under foot, you will get a sense of Ocracoke of old.

Things to Do at Wright Brothers National Memorial



Visitor Center Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Programs may be offered. Check at the visitor center for a complete schedule or call (252) 441-7430.



• **Visitor Center –**
Park staff and volunteers welcome you to the park!

Learn about the Wright brothers, the 1903 Wright Flyer and one of the greatest scientific achievements of the 20th century, as told through exhibits and interpretive programs. On display are reproductions of the 1902 glider, 1903 Flyer, the Wrights' first wind tunnel, and the original engine block from the 1903 flying machine. Don't miss the original Flyer cloth that Neil Armstrong carried 40 years ago as he walked on the moon. Educational items and memorabilia are available in the bookstore.

• **First Flight Centennial Pavilion –**

Want to learn more? Curious about the large bubble-shaped buildings? The Centennial Pavilion houses exhibits dealing with the Outer Banks at the turn-of-the-century, the evolution of aviation, the challenges of flight and NASA-sponsored space exhibits. Visit the Centennial Pavilion and expand your knowledge of our nation's aviation heritage.

• **First Flight Boulder & Markers –**

The site of the historic first flight!

Stand on the same spot where the Wright brothers lifted off in the world's first airplane, marked today by the six-ton First Flight Boulder. Journey along the flight path to the numbered markers that indicate where the world's first airplane landed after each of its four flights on December 17, 1903.

• **Wright Brothers Monument and Big Kill Devil Hill –**

Our nation acknowledges the Wrights.

Big Kill Devil Hill offers a magnificent view of the Atlantic Ocean, Albemarle Sound, and surrounding scenery. From this old sand dune, the Wrights conducted more than 1,000 glider flights. Climb the paths to the top of the hill and visit the 60-foot Wright Monument, which commemorates the Wrights and their achievements in aviation. Please walk on the paved walkways – there are lots of spiny cacti on the hill!

• **Airstrip and Pilot's Booth –**
Flight today.

Love to watch airplanes take off and land? Then, visit the Pilot Facility adjacent to the 3,000-foot First Flight Airstrip. The facility features a computerized weather briefing system, route planning software, navigational charts and restrooms. Picnic tables are available.

• **Reconstructed Buildings –**
A sense of time and place.

Stroll down a walking path next to the visitor center leading to the first flight area. Stop at the reconstructions of the 1903 wooden living quarters and hangar where the Wright brothers conducted their experiments. The living quarters are furnished with items like those the Wrights would have used, and the hangar replicates the building where the Wrights stored their 1903 Flyer.

• **December 17, 1903 Sculpture –**

The first flight replicated in life-sized art.

Recreating the first flight scene, a 10,000-pound bronze and stainless steel sculpture is located behind Big Kill Devil Hill. It offers a new perspective on the famous photograph of the first flight. The sculpture is designed to be hands on, so feel free to explore and climb on the world's first airplane. Just use caution as you climb aboard!

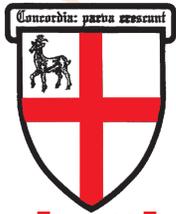
• **December 17, 2009 – 106th Anniversary Ceremony**

Join us as we observe the very first powered flight achieved by Wilbur and Orville Wright on December 17, 1903 at 10:35 a.m. Starting at 8:30 a.m., watch the descendants of the witnesses of the first flight place a wreath at the exact spot where

the famous flights occurred. Attend a morning program presented by the First Flight Society and the National Park Service; listen to distinguish guest speakers and hear patriotic musical preludes. Watch as military aircraft flyby to pay tribute to the men and the event at 10:35 a.m., the exact moment of the first flight.



Things to Do at **Fort Raleigh National Historic Site**



• **Visitor Center -**
Your home base at the Fort!
At the temporary Visitor Center, helpful and knowledgeable park rangers and volunteers will acquaint you with stories of Roanoke Island.

• **The Earthen Fort -**
Reflect on 425 years of a changed America.
A silent witness of time, the small restored fortification is associated with England's first New World settlement that was sponsored by Sir Walter Raleigh. The trench of the earthen fort is a tangible trace of part of the infrastructure that was built during the 1585-1586 time period. Nearby, an unmarked spot has confirmed evidence of metal-lurgical activity from the 1585 exploration expedition.

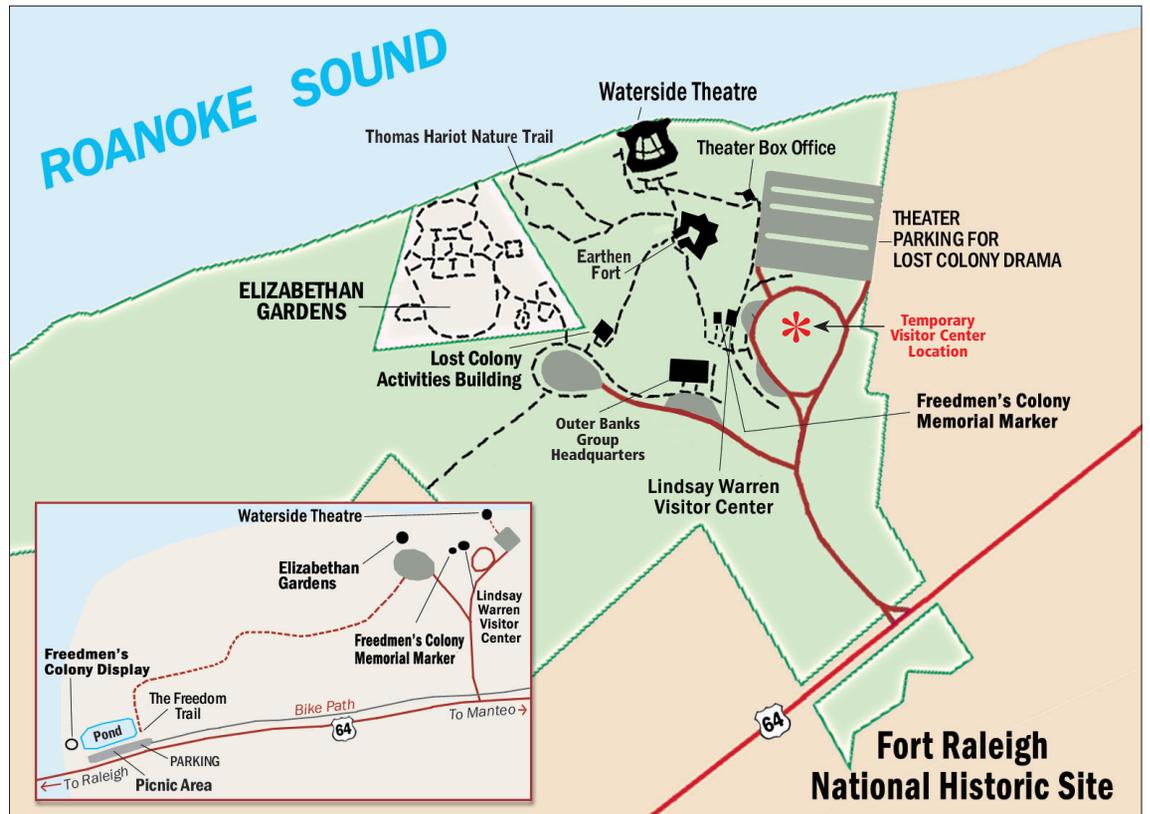
• **The Thomas Hariot Nature Trail -**
Take a walk!
This 20-minute pocket wilderness experience of the island's natural setting offers a glimpse of what Thomas Hariot and the explorers witnessed during their time here. On the trail, wayside signs relate what the English observed of the New World's natural resources and the commodities that could be made from them.

• **Freedmen's Colony Memorial Marker -**
An American evolution of freedom for all.
Located at the corner plaza outside of the visitor center, wayside signs and a memorial marker describe Roanoke Island's role in the Underground Railroad and discuss one of the first transformations of African Americans from slavery to freedom in a slaveholding state. Learn what happened after the Battle of Roanoke Island during the Civil War.

• **The Freedom Trail -**
Take a hike!
The Freedom Trail leads 1¼ miles one way from the nearby Elizabethan Gardens through the park land to the island's western edge, offering a viewshed that the native Algonquians enjoyed from their island home. At the trail's west end, signs discuss the Civil War Battle of Roanoke Island.

• **Picnic tables -**
Bring something to eat!
The scenic park grounds are excellent for a family picnic! Several tables are near the visitor center, providing trash receptacles and shade. Whether having a mid-day snack or early evening meal, the facilities are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Visitor Center Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Programs may be offered. Check at the Visitor Center for a complete schedule or call (252) 473-5772.



Construction Zone! Renovations at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site

In Fall 2009, a rehabilitation and renovation project will begin at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site. Three buildings will be renovated, including the park's visitor center (Lindsay Warren Visitor Center), the National Park Service Administration Building (Outer Banks Group), and *The Lost Colony* Activities Building. The project is expected to last approximately 12 to 18 months.

The park will remain open during the construction allowing visitors access to all of the park's walking paths in the historic grounds and throughout the rest of the park. A temporary visitor contact station and bookstore, located near the large parking area on the park grounds, will provide orientation to the park and the island's history. Friendly and helpful park staff will be available to help make your visit to the park a meaningful experience!

In this rehabilitation project, much of the 45 year old original interior and systems will be removed, including electrical wiring, plumbing, fire protection, and heating, venting and air conditioning systems. Hazardous building materials such as asbestos tile, pipe insulation and piping will be removed and replaced as well as materials contaminated with mold and mildew, such as exterior siding, interior wall tile, and ceiling plaster finishes.



These copper pieces arranged in "necklace" formation were unearthed during an archeological excavation in 2008.

Student Programs at the Parks



This past summer, area youth worked in the Outer Banks Group parks through special National Park Service youth programs, the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) and the Youth Partnership Program (YPP).

The YCC has been instrumental in introducing young Americans, ages 15-18, to conservation opportunities in national parks since the program was created in 1970. This summer employment program permits men and women to enjoy working, earning, and learning by doing projects that further the development and conservation of the nation's natural resources.

The YPP works to provide quality opportunities to youth from urban and diverse communities with a goal to increase national youth awareness about stewardship of public lands and the range of conservation careers available within the National Park Service.

As the NPS prepares to celebrate its Centennial anniversary in 2016, programs like these are increasingly central to the agency's efforts to develop a new generation of park stewards.



TOP PHOTO: Elizabeth City State University student D'Londa Lanier worked as a park ranger at Wright Brothers National Memorial. "Before my work here, I had never even been in a national park. Working with the National Park Service has been a new and exciting experience for me; and I'm learning a lot!"

BOTTOM PHOTO: Twenty-two Outer Banks high school students, participating in Young Adult Conservation Corps program, helped construct picnic tables for Cape Hatteras National Seashore campgrounds (an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act project).

Fort Raleigh Archeology Update, 2009

Recent archeological excavations conducted at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site provided discoveries that may help answer some of the many questions regarding the 1587 lost colony – perhaps America's great enigmatic mystery.

The First Colony Foundation conducted a focused archeological survey in the Thomas Hariot Nature Trail area of Fort Raleigh National Historic Site in late 2008 into early 2009.

During this project, artifact concentrations of

late 17th to early 18th century were found within a late English colonial trash midden, or refuse trash heap. Within the midden First Colony Foundation archeologists recovered several fragments of pottery, hand wrought nails, brass furniture tacks, brass buttons, smoking pipes, lead shot, gunflints and numerous food remains including peach pits, fish, pig and cattle. This 17th-century midden found at Fort Raleigh

National Historic Site is significant because it is one of the ear-

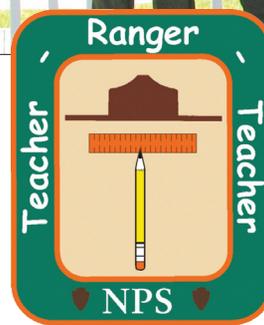
liest found permanent English-use sites on the Outer Banks. The discovery reinforces the significance of the northern end of Roanoke Island and the role it played in the early colonizing efforts of the Carolina colony.

In October of 2009, the First Colony Foundation will return to the Fort Raleigh National Historic Site for further archeological investigations. They will continue to work at the site where they had so much success in 2008 and early 2009.



A First Colony Foundation archeologist displays a sample of objects that were recovered from the 2008-2009 winter field survey.

Teacher-Rangers!



Summer 2009 Teacher-Rangers (left to right): Rolando Nacif, Spanish teacher and English Language Learner instructor at Cape Hatteras Elementary; Bob Kretz, 4th grade teacher at Nags Head Elementary; Cathy Hammill, kindergarten teacher at Manteo Elementary; Ken Binkley, digital media/photography teacher at First Flight High School; Marcia Jenkins, 4th grade teacher at Manteo Elementary; and Lisa Spencer, teaching assistant at Mattamuskeet High School.

Six North Carolina Dare and Hyde County teachers worked as Teacher-Rangers during the summer of 2009 as part of the National Park Service Outer Banks Group's first Teacher-Ranger-Teacher developmental program.

In this program, teachers were detailed, through a special agreement, from their schools to the parks for eight weeks. Uniformed as NPS rangers, they developed and presented education programs for the public, staffed visitor centers and lighthouses, and received special training on the parks' natural and cultural resources. Using the training and experiences, they created lesson plans for their classrooms and to share with other teachers.

In April 2010, during National Park Week, the Teacher-Rangers will wear their National Park Service uniforms to school and visit classrooms to discuss their summer as park rangers and engage students in activities that relate to America's national parks.

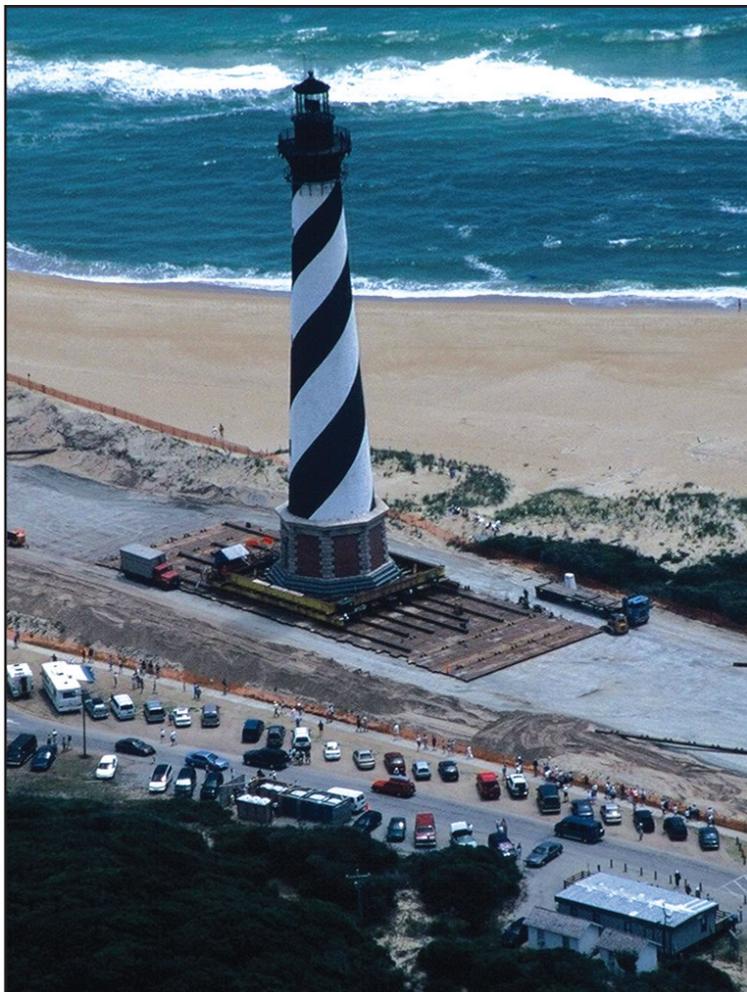
How Would You Look in a Park Ranger Hat?



Are you a college student who would like a fun and interesting summer job, a local who would like to share your knowledge or a visitor who would like to further your experience in this unique area? Then perhaps you'd enjoy working as a park ranger.

If so, visit www.usajobs.opm.gov. This website is where all National Park Service job openings are posted, and you can apply directly on-line. Summer jobs for Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Wright Brothers National Memorial and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site will likely be advertised in October and November. Or there may be other National Park sites where you might be interested in working; Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Gettysburg, Lincoln Memorial.

Working for the National Park Service could be the experience of a lifetime! Check the website and maybe we'll be seeing you here next summer as a National Park Service employee.



On The Move 10 Years Ago...

This past summer was the 10th anniversary of the moving of the Cape Hatteras lighthouse.

In perhaps the biggest event ever to take place at the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse was moved during the summer of 1999 from its original 1870 location and set down at its new site, 2,900 feet to the southwest and 1,600 feet from the Atlantic Ocean shoreline. The move, which took about 175 days of on-site preparation, was completed in 23 days from June 17 to July 9, 1999.

Saving the lighthouse meant passing along to future generations those symbols that embody values representative of the best of the American experience, a symbol of the lightkeepers and their families and the way they lived their lives – with dedication, courage commitment, care and concern for their responsibilities and for the people who made their livelihood from the sea. In the spirit of those lightkeepers past, this generation stepped up to the challenge to see that tangible evidence of those values was passed on to future generations.

Ten years ago, in 1999, the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse was moved 2,900 ft. in 23 days.

photo credit: Mike Booher

Bodie Island Happenings

Some significant improvements in the Bodie Island area of Cape Hatteras National Seashore are currently taking place, with completion scheduled for the fall of 2009.

Three historic structures threatened by impacts of shoreline erosion-the Bodie Island Lifesaving Station, its boathouse, and the former Bodie Island Coast Guard Station- will be moved west of NC-12 to the Bodie Island Lighthouse entrance road.

Also, a new boardwalk is being constructed near the Bodie Island Lighthouse. This project will result in a new, and improved, wheelchair-accessible boardwalk with an elevated observation platform offering magnificent opportunities to view birds and other wildlife. This project is being done in partnership with North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

Restoring the Bodie Island Lighthouse

The National Park Service, as steward of many of America's most important cultural resources, is charged to preserve them for the enjoyment of present and future generations. Coastal environs take a heavy toll on the historic structures located in the parks of the Outer Banks Group. Through years of enduring the harsh maritime elements and storms, the Bodie Island Lighthouse has become badly deteriorated.

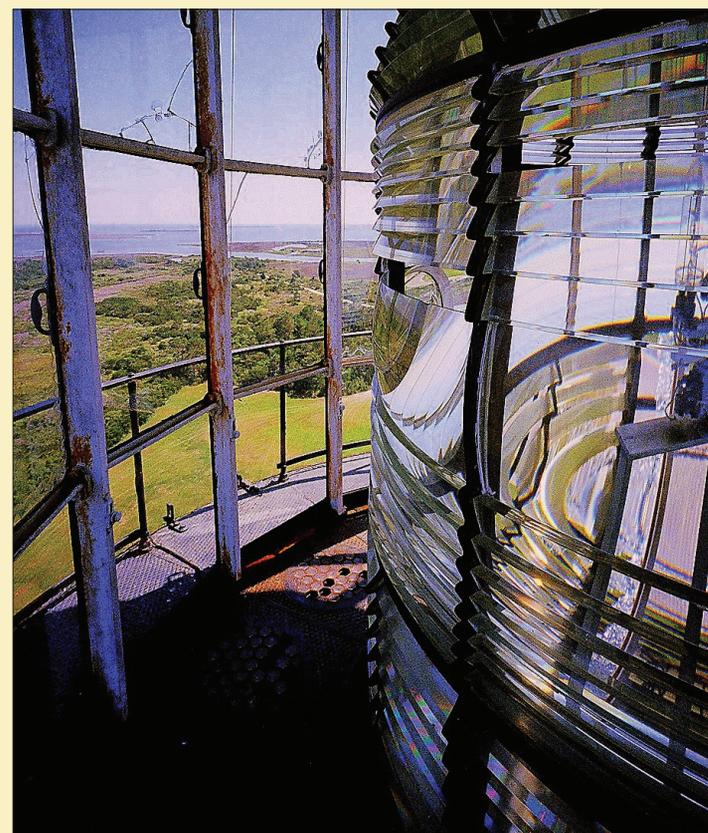
The National Park Service has received funds for a restoration project on the 1871 first-order Fresnel lens. The 344 glass prisms will be removed from the lens and carefully packed out of the tower for cleaning. The metal catadioptric panels that hold the prisms and the metal pedestal that supports the lens will be cleaned and restored in place.

The National Park Service also received funds for a major restoration project for the Bodie Island Lighthouse to correct structural and safety problems by:

- Strengthening the support of its 10 flights of spiral staircase and replacing 21 cracked stair treads;
- Repairing or replacing corroded metal features in and around the gallery and lantern decks;
- Repairing masonry and stone;
- Repairing or replacing where necessary the marble and slate at the bottom floor, the roof, the windows and the framing in the attached oil house;
- Removing lead paint and repainting the interior;
- Replacing electrical lines, conduit, interior lights and lightning protection; and
- Installing a fire detection and suppression system.

The restoration projects for the lens and the tower will each take approximately 18 months to complete. The beacon will not be active during the project period. Work on these two projects is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2009.

This beautiful structure, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is a favorite of park visitors. Preservation of the Bodie Island Lighthouse is a top priority for the park.



Bodie Island Lighthouse's First-order Fresnel Lens [photo credit: Teacher-Ranger Bob Kretz]

