



## Spring 2014 Driving Season and Exception Request Procedures

As we enter the spring driving season, the National Park Service is reminding all *resident* permit holders of the times in which restrictions begin affecting over-sand vehicle use through the West Checkpoint and across all Federal lands on Fire Island. Beginning in May, the restrictions are as follows:

- May 3 through May 23: Weekend restrictions: Saturday and Sunday driving may occur before 9:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.
- May 24 through 6:00 p.m. May 26 (Memorial Day): No driving is authorized
- May 27 through June 20: Weekday restrictions: Monday through Friday: driving may occur before 9:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday: driving is unauthorized.
- June 21 through September 1: driving is unauthorized.

Exceptions to these restrictions may be available on a case-by-case basis, and all exceptions requests are required in writing. Exception requests must be submitted least one business day prior to when the requested driving will need to occur. The Fire Island National Seashore headquarters staff will review all advance requests to drive. The West Checkpoint Ranger Station will review emergency requests occurring on weekends. Any submitted request must have supporting documents, and state why ferry service will not support the permit holder's needs.

- As an example, if you work on Long Island, and you start at 4:00 p.m. but work until 10:00 p.m., and the last ferry departing Bay Shore to Fire Island is at 9:30 p.m., the National Park Service can approve you to drive your permitted vehicle off Fire Island prior to 6:00 p.m. As an example of supporting documentation, you may submit a copy of your work schedule with your request.

Requests for after-school appointments can be approved. We required documentation. If it's an official school function please note the function so we may verify on the school calendar.

- As an example, If a resident is travelling off of Fire Island to pick up their child from a tutoring session at 4:00 p.m. The resident would be able to drive off prior to 6:00 p.m. but we would request they not drive until after 6:00 p.m. If it is a resident is traveling to an event such as a family member's graduation ceremony, the Seashore will verify this through the school district.

Requests for medical appointments must be documented though an official note from the doctor. We are requesting all permit holders to schedule appointments during evening hours.

Permit holders must submit their exception request to either: [fins\\_driving@nps.gov](mailto:fins_driving@nps.gov) or by fax: 631-289-4898. The Seashore can deny any request it is determined the request is unreasonable, inappropriate, or would impair and cause degradation to park resources