

HTA June/July 2024 Newsletter

We hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful summer. Even the complaints about the bad behavior of some individuals can't take away from the warmth of the sun, sand between our toes, and time spent relaxing with family and friends.

Your Trustees are grateful for those who responded to our call for volunteers to help with greenhead traps. There will likely be a need for a few more people to help move traps in the Fall as part of a reinvigorated Adopt A Trap program in south Holgate. More to come in the next newsletter.

Important: This is the last 2024 newsletter that will be shared with everyone on our Holgate mailing list. Starting in August, only HTA members will receive the newsletter. To renew or become a member, please go to: <https://bit.ly/HTAMembership2024>

June/July Highlights

1. Beach Conditions
2. HTA Spring Membership Meeting
3. LBT Commissioners Meeting
4. Holgate Through the Lens Photo Contest
5. Call for New Trustees
6. Wind Farm Updates
7. Tunes By The Dunes
8. Relevant Township Ordinances Passed on Second Reading
9. Relevant Township Ordinances Moved on First Reading
10. Save the Dates

Updates

1. Beach Conditions

- So far, so good. Some beaches are smaller than we would like, but the temporary pathways to the beach appear to be good for now.
- The Army Corps replenishment project was sent back for re-bid as the cost was higher than budgeted. This may mean some parts of LBI will not get done but Holgate will definitely get sand. They are still expected to start from the north end of LBI and may begin in September.
- There have been some online requests for the Township to put in the long beach mats to make walking onto the beach easier. The Township's position is the mats will quickly be covered with sand and require maintenance.

2. HTA Spring Membership Meeting

- Our June 8 meeting was well-attended, with Mayor Mancini and Angela Andersen as our guest speakers. We are thankful to them and the Mayor covered many topics of interest to Holgate before taking several questions.

3. LBT Commissioners Meeting

- LBT police have begun to give tickets to those e-bike riders who are not following safe biking rules (e.g., speeding, riding on the sidewalk) and confiscating the e-bike if the operator does not have a license to ride one.
- LBT police officers also gave out 30 tickets in just 2 hours recently to drivers who ran lights to avoid stopping at a red signal. Mayor Mancini urged all to be mindful about driving through intersections only on the solid green.
- Southern Ocean Medical Center: The Mayor described a \$30M project to expand surgical capacity. “The size of the surgical area has remained the same since the medical center opened in 1972,” he said. “The capacity needs to be expanded to serve our growing community and the space currently available limits the equipment and technology upgrades that need to be made.” Four operating rooms will be expanded to meet modern standards and support state-of-the-art procedures (e.g., robotics). Two new operating rooms will be built and current care bays will either be expanded (sterile processing department) or completely replaced (same-day surgery and post anesthesia care units). Expected completion by early 2026.

4. Holgate Through The Lens Photo Contest

- Everyone believes they are a good photographer – now’s the chance to prove it. Enter your favorite photos and Holgate memories in our 2024 contest.
- Three Categories. Beach & Bay. Wetlands & Wildlife. Sunrise & Sunset
- Paddleboard excursion prizes donated by South End Surf ‘n Paddle
- Enter here: <https://bit.ly/HolgateThroughTheLensPhotoContest>

5. Call for New Trustees

- We anticipate being in need of new trustees within the next 2 years. Anyone interested in learning about becoming a trustee should reply to this email and Rand Pearsall will arrange for a short phone call.

6. Wind Farm Updates

- The latest Offshore Wind Round-ups (#24 and 25) will soon be posted to the membership section on the HTA website.
- USEPA call for public comment regarding Atlantic Shores:
 - The U.S. EPA is requesting public comment and holding a virtual public hearing regarding the draft Outer Continental Shelf, or OCS, air permit for the Atlantic Shores project. The public comment period has also been extended, and the EPA will now be accepting comment from **July 12, 2024 to August 16, 2024**.
 - The draft OCS air permit, fact sheet and public notice are available on the EPA Region 2 Clean Air Act, or CAA, permitting website at <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/caa-permits-issued-epa-region-2>, with instructions on how to submit public comment.
 - Anyone interested in providing public comment during the hearing should register **by August 8, 2024**. If you cannot speak, read, write, or understand the English language or you are a person with disabilities and need reasonable modifications and/or auxiliary aids and services, please contact Maya Grealley at grealley.maya@epa.gov or call 212-637-3588 to request services free of charge **no later than July 31, 2024**. Please register here: <https://usepa.zoomgov.com/.../vJltf-mgpzktH4b85J6OmO42...> to receive the meeting link.

7. Tunes By The Dunes

- The second season of Tunes By The Dunes is off to a very successful start. Please come to the Refuge parking lot and enjoy live music each Thursday beginning at 6:30pm. Bring a folding chair and the beverage of your choice.

8. Relevant Ordinances Passed on Second Reading

- 24-14C Required by the state, this ordinance clarifies how salt and other de-icing materials used by residents on roads, driveways and sidewalks must be stored to prevent exposure to storm water.
- 24-15C Also required by the state, this ordinance establishes the revised and required regulations around storm water control. It establishes minimum storm water management protocols and specific controls for major developments.

- 24-16C Authorizes the addition of two stop signs on bayside streets near the Acme.
- 24-17C Establishes a fund for the purpose of self-funding insurance benefits, including health benefits, for Township employees and their dependents.
- *Adopted ordinances in the process of being incorporated in the Township's code can be found here: <https://ecode360.com/laws/LO1479>*

9. Relevant Ordinances Moved on First Reading

- 24-18 & 24-19 Bond ordinances for \$2M and \$999,999, respectively, to replace water mains in two separate areas in the southern portion of the Township
- 24-20 Bond ordinance for \$1.425M to construct a new beach patrol building. The current structure is failing and needs to be replaced.
- 24-21 Bond ordinance for \$1,279,380 to reconstruct or resurface two roadways in the southern portion of the Township and Panorama Drive in Loveladies.
- 24-22 Bond ordinance for \$3.8M to pay for equipment for the storm water pump stations. In total, six more pumps and other components of the systems will be installed between 20th & 89th Streets (south of the Acme and north of Spray Beach). *The Mayor announced that the county will reimburse the Township for the \$3.8M and this was confirmed when we attended the Ocean County Commissioners Meeting in July.*
- *First-reading ordinances are not currently available due to revisions being made to the LBT website.*

10. Save the Dates

- Tunes by the Dunes: Thursdays @ 6:30pm, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22; south parking lot
- Fall BBQ & Membership Meeting, Saturday, Sept. 7, 5-7pm; Bond's Park
- Fall Dune Planting, Saturday, Sept. 28, 10am; Meet at Tebco Terrace entrance (bring gloves and a shovel)