

## HTA March 2026 Newsletter

Welcome to Spring!

This is the last detailed newsletter that will be sent to our entire email list. Starting with the April newsletter, we will only be sharing the complete content with current members.

If you haven't already done so, please renew your tax-deductible membership today to ensure you will continue to receive our monthly newsletters:

1. Sign up at: <https://www.holgatetaxpayers>.
2. If you have a new neighbor, please encourage them to join
3. If you are not sure if you signed up this year, you can check our 2026 membership list here:

<https://www.holgatetaxpayers>.

Thanks again for your support and be sure to add all of the Save the Dates to your family calendar.

Your HTA Trustees

### March Highlights

1. Beach Conditions
2. Deep Freeze Damages
3. Trustee Retirement
4. Dune Planting
5. Regional School Tax Update
6. Museum of NJ Maritime Heritage
7. LBT Commissioners Meeting Updates
8. Relevant Township Ordinances Passed on Second Reading
9. Relevant Township Ordinances Moved on First Reading
10. Important Reminders
11. Save The Dates

## Updates

### 1. Beach Conditions

- The Township's sand bulldozing has continued as the weather improves. We expect beach conditions to be about the same as last year.
- Representative Van Drew continues to seek reinstatement of beach replenishment funds. At best, funding may be limited and would likely not happen in 2026 even for areas that need it the most on LBI.
- You can help by contacting our DC representatives: Senator Cory Booker, Senator Andy Kim and Representative Van Drew.

### 2. Deep Freeze Damages

- The extreme freeze we experienced over a 10-day period resulted in water pipes freezing and cracking with a number of reports of water damage to homes. If you didn't blow out your pipes, please be sure to check your home.
- There is no time like the present to begin to plan for next winter. The only way to guarantee no damage is to have your water shut off at the street and to have all of your pipes blown free of water. Think about contacting a plumber to schedule this service for the Fall.
- If you keep your house open, there are a number of precautions that you should take to avoid problems. Just keep in mind that none are foolproof, especially if power is lost during a deep freeze.

### 3. Trustee Retirement

- Long-standing HTA trustee Bob White has announced his retirement. The Board greatly appreciates his service and friendship. During Bob's tenure, the HTA has grown to become one of the most successful taxpayer associations on LBI, with record membership achieved in 2025. Bob's role as Recording Secretary has been assumed by Frank Benintendo. And while Bob will no longer chair the Nominating Committee, he will remain a committee member. Bob brought a professionalism and business-like approach to everything he did for the HTA and we look forward to continuing to work with him.

### 4. Dune Planting

- Due to several calendar conflicts, we are anticipating dune planting will take place on May 2. This is earlier than normal and we are checking to be sure we can get enough plants. We anticipate planting the Susan Avenue dune along with

at least one other location. Please mark your calendars as we need volunteers to plant and water.

#### 5. Regional School Tax Update

- At this time, there appears to be no consensus among the LBI mayors to fund a feasibility study into options for our regional school system. We greatly appreciate Mayor Mancini's willingness to share the cost of the study if the other mayors will participate. We continue to closely monitor this issue.

#### 6. Museum of NJ Maritime Heritage

- Located in Beach Haven, the Museum suffered severe water damage in February. While insurance will cover much of the repair, please consider supporting its recovery and reopening: <https://njmaritimemuseum.org/>

#### 7. LBT Commissioners Meeting Updates

- The dock for the new drone system for beach safety has been installed and is scheduled to be operational on April 1.
- The Municipal Building will be closed on Friday, April 3 in observance of Good Friday.
- The Beach Badge Shack will be open starting April 3 for the season.

#### 8. Relevant Ordinances Passed on Second Reading

- 26-02 This ordinance is proposed annually and allows the Township to increase next year's budget by up to 1% above the state cap of 2.5%. This is pro forma as the Township has not exceeded the state cap in the past.
- Adopted ordinances in the process of being incorporated in the Township's code can be found here: <https://ecode360.com/laws/> and are also attached to the meeting agendas found under the Government section of the LBT website

#### 9. Relevant Ordinances Moved on First Reading

- None
- First-reading ordinances can be viewed at the Clerk's office in LBT Town Hall.

#### 10. Important Reminders

- LBT Required Rental Home Registration: Annual registration is required for all rental property owners in Long Beach Township. Rental properties must register and pay the \$100 fee within 30 days of starting or renewing your liability insurance policy. <https://www.longbeachtownship.>

•Required Fire Marshall Inspection for Rental Homes: Annual fire inspections are required for all properties rented seasonally. To remain in compliance, please complete the inspection application online at: [oceancountyfiremarshal.com](http://oceancountyfiremarshal.com). Once the application is submitted, you will receive a confirmation email. After the application is received, the Marshall's office will contact you to schedule the inspection.

#### 11. Save the Dates

- Commissioners Meeting: Monday, April 6, 4pm
- Dune Planting: Saturday, May 2, 10am (Location TBD)
- Welcome Back Member Concert: May 23, 4-6pm (Bond's Park by the tennis court)
- Town-wide Yard Sales: May 23 and July 4 (Permit required)
- HTA 2nd Annual Mini Golf Tourney: June 6, 9am (Mr. Tees in Beach Haven)
- HTA Spring Membership Meeting: June 6, 1pm (Marine Field Station on Osborn)
- Tunes By the Dunes: Every Thursday evening starting June 25 (Wooden Jetty)
- HTA Fall Member BBQ: Saturday, September 5 (note: this is Labor Day Saturday)