



Town of Barnstable
Community Services Department
Marine and Environmental Affairs Division
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Sandy Neck 508-790-6272
Gatehouse 508-362-8300 (April – Nov)

Daniel J. Horn, Director
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Date: May 12, 2012

To: Sandy Neck Board

From: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager

Re: 2012 Sandy Neck Parking Plan

Dear Sandy Neck Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to present our 2012 Sandy Neck Parking Plan. As you know we are in a trend of increasing beach use. In fact, ORV beach permit sales have increased 40% in the last nine years. Due to this dramatic increase in use, we are concerned about our ability to provide safe and equitable access to ORV beach users on extremely busy weekends during beach closures. As you know beach closures occur due to our legal obligations to protect federally and state listed shorebirds during the nesting season.

The following plan is the result of discussions with the Sandy Neck Board and feedback from the public.

1. When beach closures and/or tides cause limited ORV parking, Sandy Neck staff will be creating camper/chase parking areas. These areas will equal roughly half of the available ORV parking space and will be first come first served. Where ever possible this parking will be on the berm side of the ORV corridor. Once filled the beach will be closed to addition campers for the remainder of the day and night. The beach will be re-assessed for parking at 9:00AM (the following morning) and may be re-opened to additional campers at that time if staff feels there is adequate parking availability
2. When beach closures and/or tides cause limited parking day trippers will be parked (wherever possible) on the berm perpendicular to the shoreline (facing the dune). Once Sandy Neck staff determines that the beach is filled to a capacity

ORV access will be closed for the remainder of the day. The beach will be re-assessed for parking at 6:00pm and may be re-opened to day trippers at that time if staff feels there is adequate parking availability.

3. A new policy will be created that requires patrons to remain with their campers over-night (i.e. no parking and leaving of campers on the beach in order to “save” space).
4. Speeding will be aggressively enforced and additional signs will be installed.
5. When possible, Sandy Neck staff will be actively parking patrons on the beach in order to maximize parking and minimize safety risks,
6. Over the winter of 2012/2013 the above procedures will be discussed in an open format with public comments welcome. Amendments to the parking plan and additional procedures will be drafted by the Sandy Neck Park Manager for the 2013 season.