

ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK

VISITOR'S GUIDE 2023

HAPPY 70TH BIRTHDAY IBSP!



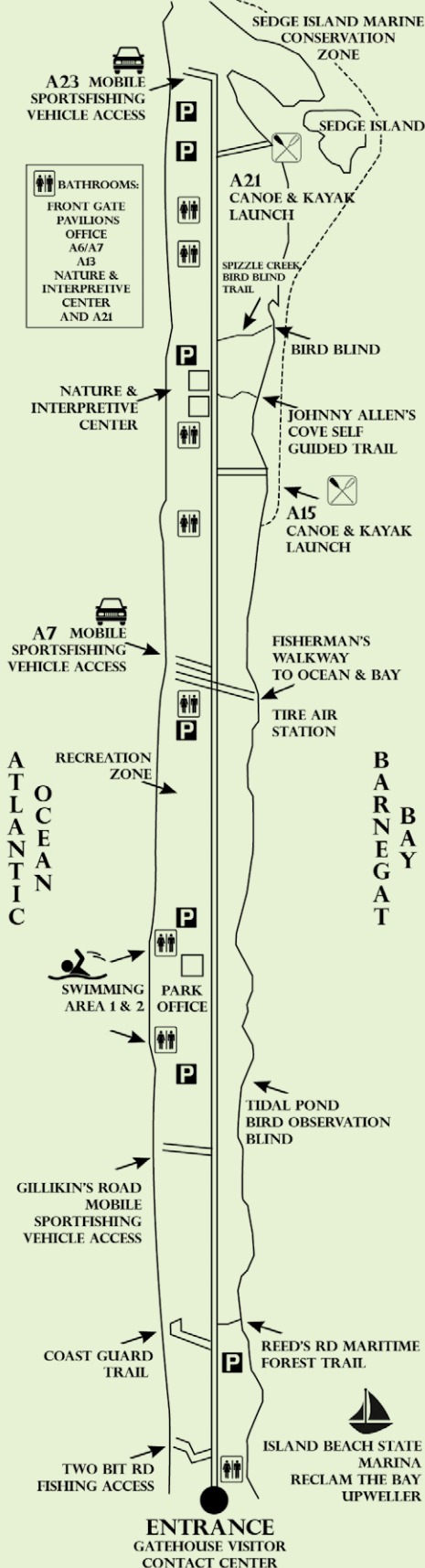
Celebrating 70 years of IBSP and the
countless generations of people that have
traveled through, lived in, vacationed at
and been connected to the Island

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Explore more at
[OceanCountyTourism.com](https://www.OceanCountyTourism.com)

BARNEGAT INLET



Inside this Guide...

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LET'S BE FRIENDS!
JOIN US AT
WWW.FRIENDSOFIBSP.ORG

Additional events are listed on
www.friendsofisp.org/events/ and
www.islandbeachnatureprograms.org

▶ Cover Photo - Ray Yaeger

WELCOME

For 70 years, Island Beach State Park (IBSP) has welcomed visitors from all over the world. If this is your first time here, welcome to the most beautiful place in New Jersey, and if you've been here before, welcome back! Hopefully, you have had the chance or plan to explore more of the park than just the beach. About 3.5 miles south of the swimming beaches, get immersed in the park's history and/or ecology at former US Life Saving Service/US Coast Guard Station #112, now home to IBSP's Nature and Interpretive Centers. Here, you can explore the deep-rooted history of IBSP, observe the unique native barrier island flora and fauna, and discover new outdoor classroom education stations. While you're here, enjoy a hike along Johnny Allen's Cove trail, which extends from the Atlantic Ocean to the Barnegat Bay, and meanders through 9 exclusive barrier island plant communities.

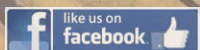
During your time at IBSP, you may notice ongoing road construction activities. While a minor inconvenience, the work is a necessary step up our efforts to protect and enhance Island Beach State Park. Upon completion, the park will have a brand new sanitary sewer system, eliminating the 8 outdated septic systems that have been in place since the 1950's. All work should be completed by Fall 2023. Thank you for your continued patience and understanding.

This year, staff and volunteers have been hard at work making the park a safe and enjoyable place to visit. Please take time to thank them and ask questions when you see them. Most of all, enjoy your stay at IBSP!

Jen Clayton, Superintendent

Charlie Welch, Assistant Superintendent

IBSP – The way life should be



ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK

PLAN YOUR VISIT



HOURS

Memorial Day — Labor Day

Weekdays 8 a.m. — 8 p.m.

Weekend/Holiday 7 a.m. — 8 p.m.

Labor Day — Memorial Day

Everyday 8 a.m. — sunset



FEES

Governor Murphy has waived fees for park entry through June 30, 2023 and is currently proposed in the budget to continue free access



PETS

- Must be on a leash no greater than 6 ft.
- Not permitted on Lifeguarded beaches.
- Not permitted on Spizzle Creek Trail.



SWIMMING

- Lifeguards on duty 10 a.m. — 6 p.m.
- Weekends beginning May 27
- Daily beginning June 17
- Swimming Area 2 opens June 17

**NO SWIMMING IF LIFEGUARDS
ARE NOT ON DUTY**



BIKING

- Cycling is permitted within the road shoulder
- All children under 14 must wear helmet



TIDES

Ocean Tides

Bay Tides



Keep your Park Clean & Green

Please bring your trash home with you when possible. Dumpsters are located at Swimming Area 1 & 2, Parking Lots A7 & A23



WEATHER

IBSP has a weather station! Click QR code for up to date, local weather forecast



PLAN YOUR VISIT



PICKNICKING

- Picnicking is permitted on the Ocean beach anywhere except in the Northern Natural Area.
- No cooking devices are permitted on Lifeguarded beaches.
- Picnic tables are available at the Nature center.



RESTROOMS

- Gatehouse
- Swimming Area 1 & 2
- Nature Center
- A6, A13, A19, A21



SURFING, SCUBA, WINDBOARDING

- Surfing permitted at the South end of Lifeguarded Area
- Scuba diving permitted anywhere with valid certification. Must register at the Park Office
- Wind boarding permitted at the South of Lifeguarded Area



HORSEBACK RIDING

- Horseback riding permitted October to April on southern 6 miles of Ocean Beach
- Reservations required
- Must clean up after horses



MOBILE SPORT FISHING

- Mobile sport fishing Vehicle permits are sold out for 2023.
- Additional permits will be available October 1, 2023.
- Air stations located at Park Office and Parking lot A6/A7



KAYAKING

- Kayaking permitted along bayside only. No ocean Kayaking.
- Launches located at Parking Lots A15 & A21
- A21 launch is for unloading only. No parking.

PROHIBITED



FACILITIES & SERVICES



Island Beach State Park
NJDEP

EMERGENCY Dial 911

Information 732-793-0506
Park Police 877-WARN-DEP



MEDICAL SERVICES

- IBSP First Aid at Swimming Area 1 & Swimming Area 2
- TriBoro First Aid (732) 830-3236
- Hospital - Community Medical Center (732) 557-8000



NATURE CENTER

- Located 7 miles south of park entrance
- Live animals, fish tanks, historic and ecological displays
- Open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. everyday in the summer!



ACCESSIBILITY

- Beach wheelchairs are available for persons with disabilities at Swimming Areas 1 & Swimming Area 2 while Lifeguards are present
- NJ Residents with a disability can obtain a FREE disability pass. Call the park office for details
- Qualified service animals are welcomed but must be leashed at all times.



SWIMMING AREAS

- Swimming Area #1
 - Bath House, Outside Showers, Food Court, Tiki Bar, Nature Programs.
- Swimming Area #2
- Bath house, Food Court
- Southern Swimming Area A7
 - Bathrooms

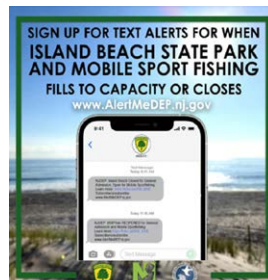


Lost & Found

Located at Park Office – 732-793-0506



**SCAN
TO VIEW**



**SCAN
TO VIEW**



THINGS TO DO

Register for an IBSP Nature Program

Explore the natural wonders of IBSP on one of our fun and interactive programs! For a complete list of dates, times, fees, age restrictions and TO REGISTER please scan the QR code or visit:



www.islandbeachnatureprograms.org

2023 Nature Programs

- ❖ Sedge Islands Kayak EcoTour
 - ❖ IBSP After Dark
- ❖ Beginners Surf Fishing Clinic
 - ❖ Surf IBSP
 - ❖ Sunset Paddle
 - ❖ And More!

THINGS TO DO



KAYAKING

Kayaking opportunities are endless in the Sedge Islands Marine conservation Zone. Launches are located at parking lots A15 & A21. Click QR Code for Sedge Map.



FISHING

One of the most popular things to do at IBSP! Permitted 24 hours a day, 365 days per year, this sport is sure to create lasting memories. Click QR Code for rules & regs.



HIKING

IBSP has a total of 8 trails, each under one mile. Visitors may also choose to explore the 10 miles of pure white sand beaches. Click QR code for trails map.



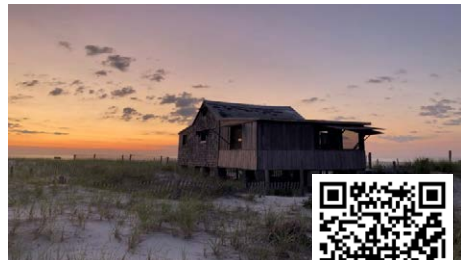
CLAMMING

Recreational clamming is permitted anywhere withing the Sedge Islands Marine Conservation Zone on any day except Sunday. Click QR code for clamming regs and license info.



BIRDING

IBSP is a popular stopover on the Atlantic Flyway, a major north-south bird migration route. IBSP hosts an Incredible diversity of birds each year and is a hotspot for local birders. Click QR code for Audubon Society.



PHOTOGRAPHY

Recreational photography opportunities are endless at IBSP. From historic shacks to stunning landscapes, there's no shortage of amazing locations to capture your photos. Click QR code for IBSP Photos.

WATCH LIVE!

Two Cameras Live Stream Island Beach State Park to the World

Join the thousands of people who tune in for a virtual look at Island Beach State Park. The beach camera, mounted at Swimming Area 1, shows viewers current beach conditions. It is used daily by surfers, fisherman, and beach goers. The Pete McLain Osprey Camera provides a live stream of the osprey nest located near the Interpretive Center. The cameras require regular maintenance and can be quite costly. Please consider making a tax deductible donation to the Friends of IBSP to help keep the camera running.

VIEW OUR CAMERAS



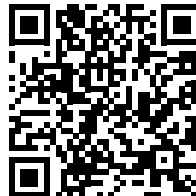
Beach Camera:



www.friendsofibsp.org/live-cams/oba1-beach-cam/



Osprey Camera:



www.friendsofibsp.org/live-cams/osprey-cam/



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Become A Volunteer



Love Island Beach State Park? Want to get more involved? Consider becoming a volunteer! Island Beach State Park relies heavily on its dedicated team of volunteers throughout the year. Park volunteers come from a wide range of backgrounds and occupations, but have in common a love for this beautiful State Park. Volunteering in the Park is a truly rewarding experience for all — individuals, families, scouts, students, and corporate groups.



Gate Collections: Through a unique partnership with the Park, the Friends of ISBP are able to collect donations at the gate during our events. We are able to bring in thousands of dollars that go directly to Park improvements and provide enriching experiences for Park visitors. Consider making a donation or volunteering with us:

- May Day Spring Festival and Pet Expo May — May 6th
- Thursdays in Park — July 20th and 27th, August 3rd, 17th, and 24th
- Beach Plum Festival — September 10th
- Barktoberfest — October 7th

Trail Maintenance: The Friends are dedicated to improving and maintaining trail access throughout IBSP. Trails provide access to some of the most scenic spaces in IBSP. Volunteers help by building boardwalk, replacing fencing, and cleaning the trails.

- Join us for National Trails Day on June 3rd to get more involved in our Trail Maintenance projects!



Join the Board of Trustees: Every November, the Friends elect a new board of trustees at our Membership Meeting. Our board members love Island Beach State Park and have a huge impact on making it a great place to visit!

- Learn more at our Fall Membership Meeting — November 11th



Additional Volunteer Opportunities:

- Festival/Event Setup and Planning
- Representing the Friends at Events
- Beach Cleanups
- Assisting in Educational Programs

Contact info@friendsofislandbeach.org to learn more about volunteering!



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EVENT



Barrier Island Classic Surf Contest

JUNIOR

How to enter

August 2023

10:00 - 3:00

Registration Fee: \$30



facebook.com/
barrierislandclassic

At Island Beach State Park

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OF
ISLAND BEACH
STATE PARK



Visit us in
Island Beach
State Park



EVENT

BEACH PLUM FESTIVAL

BEACH PLUM JELLY & ICE CREAM
FOOD · MUSIC · CRAFTERS · CHILDREN'S GAMES
ENVIRONMENTAL & NON-PROFIT EXHIBITS

SEPTEMBER 10TH
9AM - 4PM

OCEAN BEACH BATHING AREA 1



FRIENDS
OF
ISLAND BEACH
STATE PARK

\$800

SUGGESTED DONATION

RAIN OR SHINE

FAMILY FUN DAY



PLEASE VISIT WWW.FRIENDSOFISLANDBEACH.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

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OceanCountyTourism.com

EVENT

BARKTOBERFEST

Fall Festival & Pet Expo



Island Beach
State Park
Swimming
Area 1

Join us for a Pet Expo,
Food Trucks,
Dog Costume Parade
and more!

Dogs
on leash
invited to
attend.

October 7th • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Rain Date: October 8th

\$8 suggested donation



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Explore more at
OceanCountyTourism.com



Tamara Ugaro



Geni Scull



COME RELAX AND ENJOY THE BEAUTY THAT IS



SunCare Photography



Bill Mosser



Stephanie Colonna





Karen Riley



Steve Setnicky



Ray Yaeger

Island Beach State Park



Jerry Altobelli



Gerald Tanis

Sedge Islands Marine Conservation Zone

A Guide to a Unique Tidal Marsh Ecosystem

Island Beach State Park
Ocean County, NJ

Sedge Islands Marine Conservation Zone

The 1,900 acre Sedge Islands Marine Conservation Zone (SIMCZ) is located at the southern end of Island Beach State Park. Floating buoys and signs along the boundary notify the public that they are entering the SIMCZ. This is one of New Jersey's most productive wildlife habitats because it contains a combination of maritime forest, thicket, and an extensive tidal marsh. The NJ Department of Environmental Protection manages the area to protect it while making it accessible to the public for a variety of recreational uses.

Sedge Islands Marine Conservation Zone Map can be picked up at the Front Gate, Main Office, Nature Center or by logging on to www.savebarnegatbay.org

Permitted

- Boating
- Recreational damming
- Recreational crabbing
- Fishing*
- Birding
- Hunting*†
- Kayaking and Stand Up Paddleboarding

* NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife regulations apply
† Except on mainland

Prohibited

- Use of Wave Runners or Personal Water Crafts
- Violating NO wake areas
- Approaching Osprey or Peregrine Falcon nest platforms
- Entering designated bird nesting areas
- Use of alcohol or illegal drugs



For emergencies call
911 or 877-WARNDEP



Editor: Michael J. Winters 2016
Executive Director: Britta Wenzel

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KAYAKING

The Sedges

GPS Points:

- ① East entrance to Horsefoot Slough:
N 39° 47' 08.5", W 74° 06' 27.1"
- ② Horsefoot Slough Beach:
N 39° 47' 05.8", W 74° 07' 00.3"
- ③ Entrance to Marsh Elder Thoroughfare:
N 39° 47' 10.7", W 74° 06' 52.1"
- ④ North entrance to Snake Ditch:
N 39° 47' 02.9", W 74° 06' 06.5"
- ⑤ South entrance to Sea Dog Island:
N 39° 46' 37.8", W 74° 06' 09.7"

Trails:



Spizzle Creek Bird Blind Trail
(1-2 hours; 1.5 miles)



Little Bay Trail
(2-3 hours; 3 miles)



Marsh Elder Trail
(2-3 hours; 2.5 miles)



Buster Island Trail
(2-3 hours; 3 miles)

Most visitors to Island Beach State Park are unaware that the 1,900 acre Sedge Islands Marine Conservation Zone (SIMCZ) is located along the southwestern end of the park. This pristine natural area has a variety of shallow, narrow channels carving the saltmarsh into a series of islands that make the area perfect for exploring by kayak. Osprey, Peregrine Falcons and a variety of wading birds make this area an incredible place to view wildlife. While activities such as fishing, crabbing and clamming are permitted, personal watercraft are prohibited in the area.

The SIMCZ is best accessed from launch areas at parking lots A15 and A21. The kayak launch at A21 is an unloading/loading zone only. No vehicles are permitted to park in this area. Paddlers should be aware that strong winds, swift tidal currents and exposed sand bars at low tide can make paddling in some parts of the SIMCZ challenging. Maps showing kayak trails are available at the park office, nature center or by logging on to savebarneгатbay.org. Don't forget to apply sunscreen before you launch and drink plenty of water while you are paddling.

– Jim Merritt,
Sedge Island Program Director

Sign at the Southern entrance to Sedge Islands Marine Conservation Zone.



Island Beach State Park: Shell Scavenger Hunt

AN INTERPRETIVE GUIDE

“THROUGH INTERPRETATION, UNDERSTANDING; THROUGH
UNDERSTANDING, APPRECIATION; THROUGH APPRECIATION, PROTECTION.”

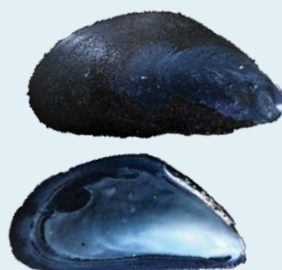
FREEMAN TILDEN



New Jersey State Park Service



☐ Atlantic Ribbed Mussel
Geukensia Demissa



☐ Blue Mussel
Mytilus Edulis



☐ Channeled Whelk
Busycotypus Canaliculatus



☐ Chestnut Astarte
Astarte Castanea



☐ Eastern Oyster
Crassostrea Virginica



☐ Jingle Shell
Anomia Simplex



☐ Knobbed Whelk
Busycon Carica



☐ Lobed Moon Snail
Neverita Duplicata



☐ Northern Quahog
Mercenaria Mercenaria



☐ Northern Moon Snail
Euspira Hero



☐ Razor Clam
Siliqua Patula



☐ Scallop
Pecten Maximus



☐ Slipper Snail
Crepidula Forficata



☐ Surf Clam
Spisula Solidissima

Happy Birthday Island Beach State Park



LENAPE INDIANS

The earliest known visitors to Island Beach, built seasonal settlements to hunt waterfowl and shore birds, fish, crab, clam, collect and produce wampum, gather eggs and trap turtles and muskrats. This year, we honor all members of Lenape tribes!



EUROPEAN EXPLORERS

European explorers: Sailing west to explore the “New World,” the first recorded description of IBSP was written in 1609. The place was “a good land to fall in with and a pleasant land to see.” This year, we celebrate all explorers!



US LIFE SAVING SERVICE & US COAST GUARD

In 1846, the United States Life Saving Service was established. In 1915, the Life Saving Service merged with the Revenue Cutter Service to form the present-day Coast Guard. Three Coast Guard stations are still in existence at Island Beach. This year, we celebrate all USLSS & USCG service men and women!



EARLY TOURISM & FISHING SHACKS:

Early accommodations included primitive fishing shacks, of which there were nearly 100 on Island Beach. Two hotels were built: the Reed and Haring Hotels. This year, we celebrate all “Shackers” and vacationers!

On July 1, 2023 Island Beach State Park (IBSP) turns 70 years old! The park would like to celebrate this milestone by looking back through the years and honoring the countless people that have traveled through, lived in, vacationed at and/or have been connected to the Island.



BARNEGAT BAYMEN

By the 1850's the culture of "Baymen" began to emerge. Early settlers supplemented their diet and income with fish, clams and waterfowl. It wasn't long before these baymen were able to support themselves entirely from the waters of the Barnegat Bay. This year, we celebrate all who love the Barnegat Bay!



PHIPPS ESTATE

In 1926, Henry Phipps purchased Island Beach to create an exclusive summer resort. The 1929 stock market crash and the Depression brought an end to his dream. He died in 1930 and Island Beach was left under the care of Francis Freeman. In 1933, Freeman formed the Borough of Island Beach. This year, we celebrate the Phipps Estate and everyone involved!



MILITARY

During World War II, a Coast Guard detail was assigned to patrol the beach. In 1945, scientists from Johns Hopkins University tested the world's first supersonic anti-aircraft missile at Island Beach. "Operation Bumblebee" was a success, traveling over 9 miles at 1.5 times the speed of sound, and was the prototype for modern rocket weapons. This year, we celebrate all military personnel!



STATE PARK

In 1953, the State of New Jersey purchased Island Beach for 2.7 million dollars. When Governor Driscoll accepted the deed from the Phipps' heirs, he stated "Island Beach is unique. It is a jewel. There is nothing like it anywhere else on earth." This year, we celebrate you and everyone else that enjoys IBSP!

SHOP LOCAL

Support local businesses on the Jersey Shore!

Breakfast & Lunch

Betty & Nick's
Park Bakery
White Oak Market
Dock Outfitters

807 SW Central Ave, Seaside Park
1031, 1047 SE Central Ave, Seaside Park
206 SE Central Ave, Seaside Park
5 NJ-35, Seaside Heights

Bar & Restaurants

Klee's Bar & Grill
Windjammer
Surf Taco
Chef Mike's
Ebby's Ristorante and Lounge

101 Boulevard, Seaside Heights
1 st & Central Ave, Seaside Park
212 NE Central, Seaside Park
10 24th, Central Ave, Seaside Park
2013 Central Ave, Seaside Park

Bait & Tackle

Betty & Nick's
Dock Outfitters
Grumpy's

807 SW Central Ave, Seaside Park
5 Route 35 South, Seaside Heights
906 NE Central Ave, Seaside Park

General Store

Shore and More
B&B Department Store

5th Ave and Central Ave, Seaside Park
500 SE Central Ave, Seaside Park

Hotels / Motels

Windjammer
Island Beach Motor Lodge
Tradewinds

100 SE Central Ave, Seaside Park
24th & Central Ave, South Seaside Park
2000 Grand Central Ave, Lavallette

LET'S BE FRIENDS

To become a member of **Friends of Island Beach**
visit our website www.friendsofisp.org
email at info@friendsofislandbeach.org



- Photo by Ray Yeager



FRIENDS OF ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK



“WE ARE NOT GUESTS OF THE ISLE, WE ARE FRIENDS OF THE ISLE, AND AS SUCH WE ARE THE KEEPERS OF THE ISLE.”

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

The Friends of Island Beach State Park (Friends of IBSP) is a non-profit volunteer organization formed to enhance interpretive, educational, recreational & research programs, and events at Island Beach State Park. Our mission is to further public appreciation and stewardship of the park. Our members come from a wide range of backgrounds and occupations but have in common a variety of interests in this beautiful State Park. Together, we accomplished so much in 2023!

- A new weather station was installed
- Restored trails and built boardwalks at Spizzle Creek, Johnny Allen's Cove, and A11
- Hosted wonderful events including a New Year's Day Hike, Lecture Series, Junior Surf Tournament, Festivals and more!
- Partnered with POAC to offer a day of fun and surf to the autism community.
- Donated equipment and assisted in maintaining the Park's Nature and Interpretive Centers.
- Over 5000 volunteer hours in the books!

Partners



Save Barnegat Bay
732-830-3600 • www.savebarnegatbay.org



Barnegat Bay Partnership
732-255-0472 • www.barnegatbaypartnership.org



The Jersey Coast Anglers Association
www.jcaa.org



Clean Ocean Action
732-872-0111 • www.cleanoceanaction.org



The American Littoral Society
732-291-0055 • www.littoralsociety.org



New Jersey Audubon Society
732-291-0055 • www.njaudubon.org



Berkeley Striper Club
www.berkeleystriperclub.org



Conserve Wildlife Foundation
609-292-1276
www.ConserveWildlifeNJ.org



New Jersey Beach Buggy Association
www.njbba.org



ReClam the Bay
www.reclamthebay.org



**New Jersey State Federation
of Sportsmen's Clubs**
www.njsfsc.org



N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife
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The Jersey Shore Sea Kayak Association
www.jsska.org



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*Come and meet our clams,
oysters, and bay scallops
in their upweller nurseries
on and near the
Barnegat Bay Island*

RCTB has a total of
12 upwellers located around
the Barnegat Bay Watershed



Visit our Jenkinson's
Aquarium Exhibit



IBSP Marina
24th Street Bayside
MONDAY • 12:00 noon
THURSDAY • 7:00 pm

Traders Cove Marina Park
Mantoloking Road
THURSDAY • 10:00 am

Mantoloking Yacht Club
1228 Bay Avenue
FRIDAY • 10:00 am

Subject to weather conditions



For more information on
our program and to
use our interactive map,
visit our website at
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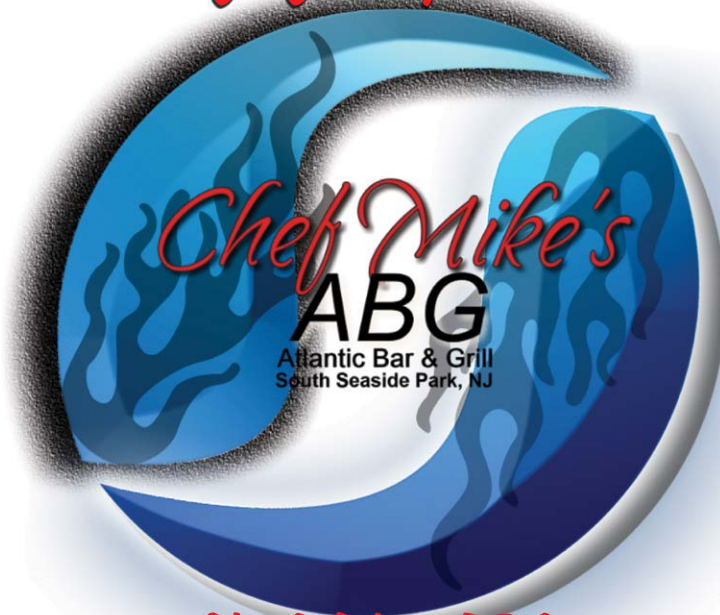
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