

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF GEORGETOWN)

ORDINANCE NO. 22-10

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE GEORGETOWN COUNTY CODE OF
ORDINANCES RELATED TO BEACH REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS, on August 23, 1988, Georgetown County Council adopted an Ordinance to establish beach regulations for Georgetown County; and

WHEREAS, the same has been subsequently amended, and the noted ordinances are currently codified in Chapter 5.5, Article II, of the Georgetown County Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, Georgetown County, after due deliberation and study has determined it to be in the best interest of the people of Georgetown County that such ordinance be further amended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND DECREED by the Georgetown County Council, the governing body of Georgetown County, the following:

The Georgetown County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5.5 BEACH REGULATIONS, Article II, Public Beaches, is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 5.5-17. Prohibitions.

- (a) The following shall be prohibited:
- (1) *Vehicles prohibited.* Driving or operating any motor vehicle of any kind or nature upon the public beach within the county shall be unlawful; provided that county vehicles operated while cleaning or working on the beach, county sheriff and emergency vehicles shall be exempt from the application of this section.
 - (2) *Horses on beach.* Horseback riding on the beaches of Georgetown County shall be prohibited, except such activity is allowed only between the dates of November 1 through the last day of February, inclusive, of each year. During the time periods when horseback riding on beaches is allowed, those engaging in such activity shall fully comply in every respect with Georgetown County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 4, Article I, "Responsibility of owner for removal of excreta deposited by animal on public property", and Chapter 5.5, Article IV, "Sand Dune Protection".
 - (3) *Sleeping on beach after midnight.* Sleeping by persons on public beaches between the hours of midnight and sunrise shall be unlawful.
 - (4) *Depositing refuse on beach or in water.* Throwing, depositing or causing or permitting to be thrown or deposited any glass, bottle, glassware, can, or pieces thereof, or any garbage, waste or refuse of any kind on the public beach or in the waters and lands adjacent to the public beach shall be unlawful.
 - (5) *Fishing creating unsafe conditions.* Baiting or fishing at any time by persons from the public beach in such a manner that will create an unsafe condition or hazard to bathers, swimmers, surfers and others in the water along the public beach shall be unlawful.

- (6) *Litter.* Littering the public beaches with cans, bottles, paper or other materials shall be unlawful.
- (7) *Nudity.* Appearing in the nude on any public beach by any person shall be unlawful.
- (8) *Glass containers on the public beach.* Taking any glass bottle, drinking glass or other glass containers on any public beach shall be unlawful.
- (9) *Obstructing free access.* It shall be unlawful for anyone to place any object, obstacle, barrier or materials on the beaches which would inhibit the free access and use of the public beaches of Georgetown County, or for individuals to loiter in or obstruct the public accesses to the beach.

(b) Tents, canopies, beach chairs, kites, coolers, beach umbrellas and similar property are allowed on the beach after sunset only so long as such property is being attended to by the user.

(c) Any similar property left on the beach after sunset shall be deemed abandoned and Georgetown County shall have the right to take possession of the property. The property shall then belong to, and be subject to disposal by, Georgetown County.

(d) No personal property shall be located within 25 feet of any emergency beach access or any turtle nest at any time.

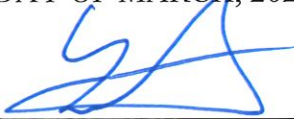
(e) Digging or altering beach surfaces for recreational purposes on the beaches of Georgetown County may only be done subject to the following:

- (1) May not be deeper than two feet (2')
- (2) Shall be filled in, regardless of diameter or depth, and the area returned to its natural state before leaving the beach

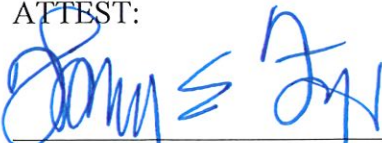
Section 5.5-19 notwithstanding, a violation of this ordinance shall subject the offender to a civil penalty of \$20.00.

This Ordinance, No. 22-10, shall be effective upon third reading approval and final adoption.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS 8th DAY OF MARCH, 2022.




(Seal)
Louis R. Morant, Chairman
Georgetown County Council

ATTEST:


(Seal)
Theresa E. Floyd, Clerk to Council

This Ordinance, No. 22-10, has been reviewed by me and is hereby approved as to form and legality.


_____(Seal)
John D. Watson III
Georgetown County Attorney

First Reading: February 8, 2022

Second Reading: February 22, 2022

Third Reading: March 8, 2022