

From the Beach Committee

~*Kate Penn, Beach Chair*

Security and Beach Rules:

The weekend security attendants are now working at the beach, and will continue throughout the summer. Please note that all cars parked at the beach lot should have an HSIA sticker. You can obtain one by contacting the HSIA Administrator, Jean Somers, at 410-263-4453. Our Beach Rules have been updated and can be found on the next page of this issue. Please remember that dogs are not allowed on the beach; this includes the entire park area. Alcohol is allowed by permit only, when reserving the pavilion for special events. To reserve the Large Pavilion for special events, please contact the HSIA Administrator, Jean Somers, at 410-263-4453; select #2 for reservations. ***Please DO NOT ASSUME you have a reservation for the pavilion. You do not have a reservation until you receive a confirmation from Jean Somers.***

Maintenance and Improvements:

Grass Roots Landscaping will begin parking lot improvements next month, after obtaining the permits. Please bear with us during construction. The asphalt area of the parking lot will remain open for use through the duration of the work. The nettle net is scheduled for installation middle to late June.

Shoreline Study:

At the July General Meeting, Environmental Systems Analysis, Inc. (ESA) will make a presentation to explain their data collection procedures. ESA has been contracted to collect data on our shoreline for the purpose of recommending appropriate erosion control designs. ESA is interested in any historical information residents have regarding the changes to our shoreline over the years. If you have photos or can relate observations specific to seasonal or storm activity, please call the HSIA Information number at 410-263-4453, or email us at beach@hillsmereshores.net.

Water Quality Results at Hillsmere Shores for Summer 2009:

The South River Federation is a participant in Operation Clearwater, a bacteria testing program for public recreational beach areas on the South River. HSIA has contracted water sampling at the Hillsmere Beach throughout the summer, from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Results will be posted in *the Sea Breeze* and are also available at the South River Federation Website, <http://www.southernriverfederation.net/index.php/river-health/bacteria-data>.

Test Results Recorded to Date by South River Federation:

5/20: 4 cfu/ml

5/27: 10 cfu/ml (Note: .08 in. rainfall on 5/26)

From Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day, the Anne Arundel County Department of Health provides water sampling results for more than 100 County beaches. Results will be posted in *the Sea Breeze* and are also available at <http://aahealth.org/wqleadin.asp#sample>

Test Results Recorded to Date by Anne Arundel County Department of Health:

5/14: 14 cfu/ml

The acceptable level for swimming and other direct water contact is determined by the EPA, Maryland Department of the Environment and the Anne Arundel County Department of Health. For bodies of water that the Department samples biweekly, the acceptable level of enterococci bacteria is a geometric mean of 104 or fewer bacteria colonies per 100 milliliters of water. (The geometric mean for a body of water is a type of average of all test results for that water area during the swim season.)

Note: The Anne Arundel County Health Department advises that after a rainfall, all Anne Arundel County beaches are under a no swimming/no direct water contact advisory for 48 hours due to predicted elevated bacteria levels from rainwater runoff and increased health risks.