

From: [Cyndy Holda](#)
To: [Beth Midgett](#)
Bcc: [Mike Murray](#)
Subject: Re: Driving Permits
Date: 12/16/2011 01:30 PM

Beth,
I agree with you on several of your comments.

Hatteras Island has some of the best, most beautiful, wild open beaches left on the East Coast.....and we are very fortunate to call it our homeland. I strive to put our homeland in her "best light" everyday of the week in both my professional work and in my community efforts.

The negative information campaign is hurting....and I hear it from callers who call to see if "there are any sections of beach open where I can walk or drive" when there have always been miles and miles of beaches open for all types of users at any given time of year. Once I walk them through how to view the Google Earth maps, they are amazed and somewhat puzzled as to why they were told "everything is closed there these days."

"A few bad apples....." is the phrase that comes to mind about those negative campaigners.

I'm sure Mike and staff will be happy to hear your suggestions and we'll see what we can come up with collectively together within the perimeters of the policies that bind us in fee and accountable property operations. We will certainly lead and assist in any way we can in distributing accurate and factually correct messages to the general public in order to manage the visitors expectations and resulting visitor experience. As always, accurate communications from this office is important to NPS and our neighboring communities.

I'll be working some during the holidays and checking emails so if something changes for January 13th just let me know. I'll hold the second date until I hear from you again.

We look forward to seeing you in 2012!~

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▼ [Beth Midgett <bethm@midgettrealty.com>](mailto:bethm@midgettrealty.com)

0031804

Beth Midgett
<bethm@midgettrealty.com>

To Cyndy_Holda@nps.gov, Dennis Robinson
<dennisr@midgettrealty.com>

12/16/2011 01:08 PM

cc

Subject Re: Driving Permits

Thank you Cyndy,

We absolutely realize there would be many regulations involved that we would be unaware of and perhaps some things will just be as they have to be.

To be frank, we both know how this issue will be/has been put in a very negative light. Hatteras Island is still the best beach in the United States (yes I am prejudiced :)) and we would be shooting ourselves in the foot to allow the negative message to overtake the positive things we have to offer.

We do marketing, online reservations and turn a remarkable number of homes/people over in a very short time window every weekend. It would be my hope that we could share our knowledge and try to be the best partner we can be to help make the visitor experience as positive as we can make it.

The message and the logistics will be key, and getting out in front of this with as much information as we have, as early as we can get it, will go a long way in managing the visitors expectations and resulting public opinion.

I think you will find both of us to be people who are very realistic and tend look at the big picture.

Please pencil us in for the 13th....I have only one schedule conflict (an out of area meeting) that could arise, but I will have confirmation on those dates by the end of the month.

2012 Will be a better year for all of us! I am ready to put this year to bed! Hope you get some much deserved time off. Beth

On Fri, Dec 16, 2011 at 12:15 PM, <Cyndy_Holda@nps.gov> wrote:

Beth,

The policies and regulations governing all types of fee collection operations (service-wide) for the National Park Service system are established by the Washington offices. Because of those regulations and

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policies, I'm confident that we (locally) will not be able to use the on-line reservations systems that you refer to in your email. Having said that, I'm equally sure that Superintendent Murray and his fee management staff will be happy to meet with you and Dennis to hear your suggestions and input. I can also assure you that in the past year several staff members have devoted a great deal of time and thought to preparations for implementation of the ORV permit system should the need arise out of this long overdue regulation for the Seashore in order to make this as smooth a transition for everyone as possible.

May I suggest either of the following dates as possibilities for you and Dennis to come to Manteo and meet with Mike and staff:

Friday, January 13th at 11:00 am

or

Thursday, January 19th at 1:00 pm

Happy holidays to you and best wishes for 2012!

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Beth Midgett
<bethm@midgettre.com>

To

Cyndy_Holda@nps.gov

12/16/2011 11:12

cc

AM

Subject

Driving Permits

Good Morning Cyndy,

I was wondering, would it be possible to set up a meeting with myself, Superintendent Murray, and Dennis Robinson of the Hatteras Village Civic association in the near future?

We would love to have the opportunity to "brainstorm" about how we can make the permit system process as efficient as possible for our visitors. We have much experience in the latest innovations in online reservations systems and development of such sites.

We fully realize that this is something that is required and are also aware that there are certain legal requirements that have to be fulfilled. We are willing to partner with NPS to explore how everyone's needs can best be met. We want to be proactive in making this a positive experience that reflects well on the Seashore.

Look forward to hearing from you and hope you have a great holiday season!

Beth

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