

## **PUBLIC BEACH ACCESS and RETAIL STORES UPDATE**

April 21, 2020

Dear Owners,

We hope that all are well and safe. Below you will find information regarding the public beach access points for North Myrtle Beach, Unincorporated Areas of Horry County and Myrtle Beach.

As an additional note, pools and exercise rooms will remain closed at this time.

### **Public beach access to reopen for North Myrtle Beach, unincorporated areas of Horry County**

NORTH MYRTLE BEACH AND HORRY COUNTY, S.C. (WPDE) — Officials with the City of North Myrtle Beach passed a motion in a Monday city council meeting that public beach access points in North Myrtle Beach will reopen Tuesday, April 21st at noon.

"We are putting a lot of confidence in the people of our community," said Mayor Marilyn Hatley. "We can always go back and close it, but I don't think we will have to do that. I think that the people are ready to have some fresh air, I think they are ready to have some sunshine and I think that they will appreciate the beach more than they ever have before."

Horry County Government also announced Monday that public beach accesses in the unincorporated areas of Horry County will reopen on Tuesday at noon, according to a tweet from their official account.

"The executive order requiring individuals from different family units to stay 6+ feet apart remains in effect," the post said.

The announcement comes after Gov. Henry McMaster lifted restrictions on public access points and some retail businesses on Monday, while delegating to local officials the authority to restrict access as they see fit. This also applies to public piers, docks, and wharves.

### **City of Myrtle Beach says public beach accesses will remain closed until further notice**

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. (WPDE) — South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster on Monday lifted restrictions closing public beach accesses and allowed for some businesses to reopen.

Despite that move, the City of Myrtle Beach says public beach accesses will remain closed until further notice.

***SC Governor Henry McMaster today modified two previous executive orders regarding COVID-19. First, the governor cancelled his order of March 30 that closed public access to the beach and adjacent public parking. He returned the authority for those areas to the local jurisdictions, effective at 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 21. Myrtle Beach City Manager has issued Executive Order No. 7, attached, which states that public access to the beach and adjacent parking will remain closed until one of the following occurs: the emergency declaration expires, City Council directs otherwise or the emergency order is rescinded.***

***Second, the governor cancelled his April 3 order restricting additional retail businesses, such as department, craft, book and jewelry stores, from operating, effective at 5:00 p.m. April 20th. The governor stated that those businesses are still subject to the same requirements as essential businesses, including that they can operate at no more than 20 percent of occupancy or with only five customers per 1,000 square feet of space, whichever is lesser. Social distancing guidelines still apply, with customers to maintain six feet of separation while shopping and during checkout.***