



2010
International Student
Information Guide

Grand Strand
Myrtle Beach
South Carolina, USA
English Edition



A Special Note of Thanks to All Who Have Contributed Time and Effort in the Development of this Guide

Local, County, State and Federal Agencies

Hospitality and Labor Businesses

CIEE
(Council on International Educational Exchange)

Chapin Memorial Library and Staff

Rehoboth Beach International Student Outreach Program

Purpose of the Guide

The purpose of this guide is to provide a welcoming and supportive outreach to the many student visitors to the Grand Strand. We hope to answer some of the questions you may have regarding your stay in the USA and our area. Many of you will have received this guide in preparation of your arrival in South Carolina; for those of you who receive it upon your arrival, it will help in answering the “what do I do next questions.”

MOVIE THEATERS	
Broadway at the Beach	843-445-1616
Carmike - Myrtle Beach (Colonial) Mall	843-272-6277
Coastal Grand Mall	843-839-3221
Market Commons	843-282-0550

RADIO STATIONS	
FM 92.1 Soft Rock	FM 94.5 Easy Listening
FM 94.9 Beach and Boogie	FM 98.5 Hip Hop
FM 97.7 Today's Hits	FM 101.7 Alternative Rock
FM 104.9 80's, 90's, today	FM 103.5 Country
FM 105.9 Easy Listening	FM 106.5 Oldies
FM 107.1 Rock FM	FM 107.9 Oldies
AM 93.7 - Sports all the time	

TAXI CABS	
A Taxi	843-222-2222
Anchor	843-444-0101
A & A	843-448-4848
Beachside	843-448-8888
Diamond	843-443-9000
Express	843-692-2222
Rock Star	843-448-4242

TELEVISION STATIONS	
WBTW TV CBS 13	WFXV Fox 43
WPDE TV ABC 15	WMBF NBC 10

HOSPITALS

Grand Strand Regional Medical Center 809 82 nd Parkway, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572 843-692-1000 www.grandstrandmed.com		South Strand Ambulatory Center affiliate of GSRMC, 5050 Hwy 17 Bypass Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-839-1000	
Georgetown Memorial Hospital 606 Black River Road Georgetown, SC 29440 843-527-7000 www.georgetownhospitalsystem.org	Loris Community Hospital 3656 Mitchell Street Loris, SC 29569 843-716-7000 www.lorishealthcaresystem.com	Waccamaw Community Hospital 4070 Hwy 17 Bypass South Murrells Inlet, SC 29576 843-652-1000 www.georgetownhospitalsystem.org	Conway Medical Center 300 Singleton Ridge Road Conway, SC 29526 843-347-7111 www.conwaymedicalcenter.com

Table of Contents

Introduction/Welcome	2, 4
What to Do First	4
Cultural Adjustments	6
SC Illegal Immigration Act of 2008	6
Proper Dress Codes	7
Pedestrian Safety	8
Bike Safety	8
Mopeds	8
Alcohol/Drugs/Social Scene	9
Beaches and Boardwalk	10
Fireworks	10
Noise	10
Trespassing and Destruction of Property	10
Police/Fire	11
Hospitals/Clinics	11
Beach Weather/Hurricanes	12, 13
Library Cards	14
Telephone Calling Cards	14
Useful Conversions	14
Cell Phone Stores Locations	15
Transportation	15
Obtaining Drivers Licenses	16
Banks	16
Where to Buy Bikes	16
City/Town Information	18
Dental Clinics	18
Employment Services	19
Housing/Rentals	19
Internet Cafes/Libraries/Wi-Fi	19
Police/Fire Information by Town	20
Post Offices	20
Medical Care/Hospitals	21
Movies Theaters	22
Radio Stations	22
Taxi Cabs	22
Local Television Stations	22

Welcome

On behalf of the Myrtle Beach Area Hospitality Association (MBAHA), welcome to the Grand Strand and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Every summer we are happy to welcome students from other countries who come here to visit our community. We are grateful for the opportunity to meet as many of you as possible and to learn about your cultures and home countries. We have prepared this booklet as a guide to help you during your stay.

The Grand Strand and Myrtle Beach area covers approximately 60+ miles of uninterrupted coastline. Primarily located in Horry and Georgetown Counties, the Grand Strand is known as America's Family Playground. Tourism population soars weekly to over to half a million in the peak seasons.

There are currently over 89,000 rooms available on the Grand Strand which include; hotel, motel, condo's cottages and campgrounds. You will find over 1,700 restaurants and numerous attractions, entertainment, and golf venues.

What to Do First

1. If you do not already have a place to stay for the summer, there are a couple of options available for you. One option is to find an economical motel which houses students. Most of these motels are located between Kings Highway and Ocean Boulevard. There are about 20 different motels where most of the J-1 visa students stay from 8th Avenue North to 3rd Avenue South. You will find a list at the Chapin Memorial Library, 400 14th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach.

Housing Caution: Please be careful when placing deposits on rooms. Some people may try to take advantage of your newness to the area and take your money and not provide you a room or apartment, leaving you without a place to live. If this happens, please report it to the police.

Conway	Police Fire	843-248-1790 843-248-1720
Garden City Beach	Fire	843-651-5143
Litchfield Beach	Sheriff/Police Fire	843-546-5102 843-545-3271
Little River	Police Fire	843-915-5350 843-915-5190
Loris	Police Fire	843-756-4000 843-756-4004
Murrells Inlet	Fire	843-651-5143
Pawley's Island	Police	843-237-3008
Surfside Beach	Police Fire	843-913-6368 843-913-6369
Horry County	Police Fire	843-915-5350 843-915-5190

POST OFFICES

505 N Kings Highway Myrtle Beach, SC 29577	843-626-9533
820 67 th Ave North Myrtle Beach, SC 29572	843-692-9870
621 6 th Ave South North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582	843-272-5864

MEDICAL CARE Clinics

Access Med Plus Medical Center 3816 Hwy 17 South, North Myrtle Beach, SC	843-272-1411 www.medplussc.com
Doctor's Care Clinic 1600 Hwy 17 North Surfside Beach, SC 29575 843-238-1461	1220 21 st Ave North Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-626-9379
1714 Hwy 17 South North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582 843-361-4045	www.doctorscare.com
Friendship House - Free Medical Clinic 154 Waccamaw Medical Park Court, Conway, SC 29526 843-347-7199	www.scha.org

Sunny Day Guide to the Grand Strand 600 16 th Ave North, Suite 2 Myrtle Beach, SC 29578 843-626-2412 www.sunnydayguide.com	Myrtle Beach Herald 4806 Northgate Blvd. Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 www.myrtlebeachherald.com 843-626-3131
Sea Haven, Inc. Provides services through our shelter home and street outreach center 3892 Hwy 9 East Little River, SC 29597 cbjack@sccoast.net	

INTERNET CAFES/LIBRARIES/WI-FI

Coffee Cabana Internet Café 1706 Hwy 17 North Surfside Beach, SC 29575 843-238-8230	Barnes and Noble Coastal Grand Mall Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-238-2917 www.barnesandnobleinc.com
Cybercino Café 1121 N. Kings Hwy Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-839-2927 cybercino_cafe@excite.com	Java & Internet Café 810 3 rd Ave S Surfside Beach, SC 29575 843-477-1300 www.jiwire.com
Living Room Coffee Bar 1293 38 th Ave North Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-626-8363	McDonald's 2200 N. Kings Hwy Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-448-4876
Sam's Mart and Deli 301 11 th Ave South Myrtle Beach 29577 843-626-3075	Starbuck's 2005 N. Ocean Blvd Myrtle Beach, SC 843 626-4705 www.starbucks.com

POLICE & FIRE CONTACTS - For All Emergencies Dial 911

Myrtle Beach	Police	M-F, 8am - 5pm	843-918-1300
	Fire		843-918-1382 After 5pm 843-918-1192
North Myrtle Beach	Police		843-280-5511
	Fire		843-280-5531
Atlantic Beach	Police		843-663-2274
	Fire		843-248-1223
Aynor	Police		843-358-3900

2. Make your important phone calls! You will want to call home to let your parents and friends know you have arrived safely in Myrtle Beach. If you have not done so already, you will also want to contact your local employer to let them know you have arrived and inquire as to when you should plan on arriving at the job site. Make sure to ask about what clothing you should wear to work.

3. Register your United States address in the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVIS). Registration in SEVIS must happen within 20 days of your arrival into the United States. Failure to register in SEVIS will result in cancellation of your visa, making it illegal for you to work in the United States. Please follow your visa sponsor's recommendation on how to register in SEVIS. Your sponsor organization is available to help you with problems or questions during your work and travel program. Please refer to your sponsor letter or DS-2019 form for contact information.

4. Apply for your Social Security Card.

Social Security Administration website: www.ssa.gov
You will need the following forms when applying:

- J-1 Visa
- Unexpired passport
- Form I-94 - Arrival/Departure Record, issued when you entered the US.
- Form DS-2019 - Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitors Status
- Job Sponsor's letter showing your participation in the Program
- Completed Social Security Application SS-5

NOTE: All documents must be originals or certified by the issuing agency. Apply for the social security card after you are in the United States a minimum ten (10) days or processing will be delayed.

S.C. Illegal Immigration Act of 2008

In accordance with the SC Illegal Immigration Act of 2008, you will be required to apply for a South Carolina Driver's License or Identification Card if your employer or potential employer does not participate in the E-Verify System. Please check with your employer. If this will apply to you, the following documents will be required.

- Proof of Identity (SC Code Section 56-1-80 and 56-1-90(2))
- Proof of Date and Place of birth (SC Code Section 56-1-80 and 56-1-90(2))
- Current authorization to live, work or study in the U.S. (SC Code Section 56-1-40(7) and 56-1-80)
- Social Security Card or Letter from the Social Security Administration stating that the applicant is not allowed to work in the United States (SC Code Section 56-1-90)
- Proof of SC residency (SC Code Section 56-1-40(7) and Section 56-1-80(3))
- Automobile liability insurance information (if applying for a driver's license) (SC Code Section 56-1-80(C))

Please refer to SC Department of Motor Vehicle Form MV-74 for specific examples. You can obtain this form by visiting the Motor Vehicle Department, 1200 21st Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, SC; Chapin Memorial Library, 400 14th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, SC, or by downloading at: www.scdmvonline.com/DMVNew/forms/MV-94.pdf.

Cultural Adjustments

Moving from the familiar comforts of home to a different culture is taking a challenge. The universal process of adjustment pushes you into a great learning experience through overcoming difficulties, altering your positions or your attitudes, and learning from others. While preparing for the adventure, you may have hopes and expectations for the experience. When faced with the realities and practical tasks of jobs, housing, and transportation, you can be overwhelmed, discouraged, and disappointed. Your

Conway City Hall 1001 3 rd Ave Conway, SC 29526 843-248-1760 www.cityofconway.com	Georgetown City Hall 120 N. Fraser Street Georgetown, SC 29440 843-545-4000 www.cityofgeorgetownsc.com
Myrtle Beach City Hall 937 Broadway Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-918-1000 www.cityofmyrtlebeach.com	North Myrtle Beach City Hall 1018 2 nd Ave South North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582 843-280-5555 www.nmb.us

DENTAL CARE

Comfort Dental 1261 38 th Avenue North Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-448-5757 www.comfordental.com	Sexton Dental Clinic 901 Medical Circle Myrtle Beach, SC 29572 843-449-0431 www.yp.bellsouth.com
Grand Strand Family Dentistry 3409 N. Kings Hwy Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-448-6434 www.local.yahoo.com	

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

CIEE - Council on International Educational Exchange - 24-hour Participant Support Center for sponsored students 1-888-268-6245 (1-888-COUNCIL)	SC Dept of Labor Columbia, SC 29210 803-734-9603 www.jobs.sc.gov
SC Employment Security Commission Coastal Workforce Center 200A Victory Lane Conway, SC 29526 843-234-9675 www.coastalworkforce.org	

HOUSING RENTALS AND JOB LISTINGS

Alternatives News Magazine/Coast Magazine 721 Seaboard, Suite 15 Myrtle Beach, SC 29578 843-444-5556 www.myrtlebeachalternatives.com	The Sun News 914 Frontage Rd East Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 www.myrtlebeachonline.com
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Bike Shop 711 Broadway Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-448-5335	Community Thrift Shop 1411 10 th Ave Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-448-2939
Goodwill 127 Loyola Drive, MB, SC 29588 843-650-0163	2913 Church Street Conway, SC 29526 843-369-0007 www.lowcountrygoodwill.org
Habitat for Humanity Store 1519 Executive Ave, MB, SC 29577	843-626-5577 www.habitatmb.org
Salvation Army 400 N. Kings Highway Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-946-7279	www.salvationarmy.org 1502 4th Ave Conway, SC 29526 843-248-3232
400 Main St. North Myrtle Beach, SC 29597 (843) 280-3387	
Target 1150 Seaboard St Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-946-6998 www.target.com	Wal-Mart 541 Seaboard St. Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-445-7781 www.walmart.com

CITY/TOWN INFORMATION

Conway Area Chamber of Commerce 230 Main Street Conway, SC 29528 843-248-2273 www.conwayscchamber.com	Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce 1001 Front Street Georgetown, SC 29442 843-546-8436 www.georgetownchamber.com
Little River Chamber of Commerce 1569 Hwy 17 Little River, SC 29566 843-249-6604 www.littleriverchamber.org	Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce 1200 N. Oak Street Myrtle Beach, SC 29578 843-626-7444 www.visitmyrtlebeach.com www.myrtlebeachareachamber.com
North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce 270 Hwy 17 North North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582 843-281-2662 www.northmyrtlebeachchamber.com	Atlantic Beach Town Hall 717 30 th Ave South Atlantic Beach, SC 29582 843-663-2284 www.atlanticbeachsc.com

confidence, sense of security, and personal status are challenged. You may greatly miss home and family. This normal stage of stress is natural; it is called “culture shock.”

To counter this stress you must pay attention to basic needs for healthy diet and sleep. It is essential to communicate with others about your thoughts and emotions. Reaching out to others gives fresh thinking, new options and personal support; it actually builds friendships. In America people often seek counsel from family or friends, bosses, people from church, or mental health professionals (psychologists, social workers). There are many people in our community eager to help. A primary resource is your sponsor and its vast experience over the years with many students from many places. Its knowledge of local resources offers great perspective on your journey. Would changes in residence, jobs, or companions, or lifestyle be helpful?

Keep the concept of adjustment in mind as you make preparations. Crossing cultures is enlightening; the gains in maturity and sophistication are worth the risks. Once your world view is reshaped, you will forever view yourself, your home, and the family of man differently.

Proper Dress Codes

Your appearance is very important when dealing with the public. Employers will assume that if you don’t take care of your image, then you won’t pay attention to work duties. Neatness and cleanliness are necessary. Please be attentive to the following:

- Bathing/showering, brushing teeth daily and using deodorant is necessary to avoid bad breath, body odors, dirty fingernails, dirty hair or dandruff as they are not appropriate for the workplace.
- You must wear closed work shoes - high heels or open toe shoes are not allowed in service industry jobs. (Your employer will advise as to type to wear).

- If your employer allows you to wear shorts, they must be walking or bermuda shorts (no short-shorts).
- Your clothing must be CLEAN, IRONED/WRINKLE FREE and without holes, tears, stains or frays. Midriff-revealing shirts and camisole tops are not appropriate as a shirt.
- Sheer blouses must be worn with proper undergarments.

Pedestrian Safety

Always walk on the sidewalk. If no sidewalk, use the shoulder of the road. **YOU MUST USE CROSSWALKS.** Walking or driving mopeds on 17 Bypass is absolutely forbidden. Wear light or reflective clothing, and carry a flashlight when walking at night. Look left, then right, then left again before crossing the street.

Bike Safety

When purchasing a bike make sure it has a Serial # which you write down immediately. Should the bike be stolen, the police will not be able to help you retrieve your bike unless you can provide this number. It is located on the pedal between the pads. All riders must wear a helmet at all times.

Bicyclists must obey the same laws as drivers of other vehicles.

Local law requires bicyclists to:

- Obey all traffic signals, signs, pavement markings, and police officers
- Ride with the flow of traffic; do not ride against the traffic flow
- Ride on the far right hand side of the road
- Do not hitch rides on moving vehicles
- Be aware of auto drivers' rights (auto drivers can make a right turn on a red light)
- One hand must be on handlebars at all times

them at 843-488-0865 for more information. Website - www.CoastRTA.com.

Obtaining Driver's License

Not all international or foreign drivers' licenses are recognized as a valid form of authorization to operate motor vehicles. A new law will go into effect on July 2, 2009.

Please inquire at the Department of Motor Vehicles if your country has reciprocity with South Carolina.

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
1200 21st Avenue North
Myrtle Beach, SC

Banks- Free Checking-Notary Services

Free checking accounts are available from most banks in Myrtle Beach. To open an account, you will need your passport with J-1 visa and SSN or letter from the Social Security Association saying that you have already applied for your Social Security Number. They will also have safe deposit boxes, which is where you should keep your passport and other valuables. Make copies and place originals in the box.

BANKS	
Wachovia Bank, NA 2110 Oak Street Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-448-2688	Bank of America 2501 Oak Street Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-946-2135
BB&T ** 2619 Oak Street Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-443-4240 1245 38th Ave North (inside the Bi-Lo Shopping Center) Myrtle Beach, SC 843-626-9627	
** This bank requires secondary proof of identification which can be foreign or international driver's license or state ID.	
BIKES - Where to Buy	
When purchasing a bike make sure it has a Serial # which you write down immediately. Should the bike be stolen, the police will not be able to help you retrieve your bike unless you can provide this number. It is located on the pedal between the pads.	

AT&T:
HTC HORIZON
2000 COASTAL GRAND CIRCLE
MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29577
Prepaid - GoPhone Refills

VERIZON:
Verizon Retail Store
551 Seaboard St.
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
(843)445-6101

SPRINT:
Sprint Retail Store
2038 Coastal Grand Circle
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
(843) 444-9123

ALLTEL:
Alltel Retail Store
1950 Mr. Joe White Avenue
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
(843) 626-3530

Transportation

Air Travel: If you are not flying direct to Myrtle Beach, ground transportation is offered from most major arrival cities that include New York, Atlanta, Charlotte, Charleston, Washington D.C., and Miami.

Bus Service: Please check www.greyhound.com for current bus schedule, cost, etc. The local Greyhound terminal is located in downtown Myrtle Beach, 511 7th Avenue North, 843-448-2471 or 843-448-2472.

Local: Coast RTA is the local public transportation services for getting around the Grand Strand. Their schedules change frequently to accommodate the ridership. Please contact

- Use lights and reflectors when riding at night
- Protect your head - always wear a helmet
- Use lights, reflectors and a noise-making device, such as a horn
- Respect pedestrians
- Always walk bikes across major intersections - this is the safest way
- Curfew is in effect from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. for juveniles under age 18, with certain exceptions. Violators are detained and parents are called.

Avoid major highways and bridges whenever possible, motorists have limited visibility and lane access to avoid hitting a cycle.

Mopeds

Keep your international driver's license and passport with you at all times. You must be 21 years old to drive mopeds and abide by motor vehicle laws. Headlights must be on at all times. Do not exceed 25 miles per hour. You cannot have passengers unless the moped is equipment with separate foot pegs for the passenger. **All drivers and passengers must wear a helmet.**

Alcohol, Drugs & Social Scene

The police have a zero tolerance for the use of illegal drugs & open liquor/beer containers in vehicles or on the beach.

- It is unlawful for any person under the age of 21 to consume or have any alcoholic beverage in their possession
- No one under the age of 21 is permitted to enter a bar or nightclub, even if you are not planning on drinking.
- Public drunkenness and disorderly conduct are not allowed. No person shall be drunk or under the influence of alcoholic beverages in a public place within the city.

- 4. Open containers of alcohol are not permitted. It is illegal to drink or possess open containers of alcohol on any public street, boardwalk, beach or sidewalk.

Social Scene

The world is experiencing a growing problem with the use of date rape drugs in social and business settings. Date rape drugs refer to any drugs that are sometimes used to assist a sexual assault. These drugs are used in social situations since they have no color, odor, or taste and are easily added to flavored drinks without your knowledge. These drugs can take as little as 10-15 minutes for them to take effect. Because of the effects of date rape drugs, victims may be physically helpless, unable to refuse sex, and/or can't remember what happened.

Be Alert - Ways to Protect Yourself:

- Don't accept open drinks (in a glass, can, bottle) from anyone
- Keep your drink with you at all times, even when you go to the restroom
- Don't share drinks
- Don't drink anything that tastes or smells strange
- Rape or sexual assault of any type is unlawful; you have the right to report it to the police as a crime.

Beaches and Boardwalk

- No sleeping on the beach or boardwalk
- No glass containers on the beach
- No fires on the beach
- Use sun protection -SPF8 or higher-Sun is strong.
- No nudity
- No motorized vehicles on the beach
- Thongs are illegal
- Absolutely no alcohol/beer allowed on the beach.
- Do not leave your personal property unattended at anytime - thefts do occur
- It is a Federal offense to destroy/or alter sand dunes and sea oaks.

North Myrtle Beach Library
799 2nd Ave N.
North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582
843-918-1275

Hours: Mon- Thurs 9-7, Fri 9-6, Sat 9-2, Sunday Closed

Surfside Library

410 Surfside Dr.

Surfside Beach, SC 29275

843-238-0122

Hours: Mon- Thurs 9-7, Fri 9-6, Sat 9-2, Sunday Closed

Telephone Calling Cards

Calling Cards can be purchased at any drug store, grocery store, Mini market, Walmart, K-Mart

- To call Europe, including Russia: Super Call, Super Classic, and Europe
- To call Latin America you can use: Oye Carolina or STI Mundo
- To call Caribbean: STI or World
- They are usually available at Marisela's Bakery 1607 North Kings Highway and Sam's Deli 301 11th Ave North, also have the Hispanic tiendas.

Useful Conversions

1 mile = 1.6 km 1 yard (3 feet) = 9.4 cm

1 inch = 2.54 cm 1 ounce = 28.35 grams

1 quart = 0.95 liters 1 gallon = 3.79 liters

1 pound = 0.45 kg

Cell Phone Store Locations

T-Mobile:

Wireless Advocates

1021 OAK FOREST LN

MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29577

843-839-6624

I would like to evacuate to a shelter, but I don't have transportation. Is public transportation available?

Coast RTA, the public transportation system for Horry County, activates its Emergency Evacuation Program once an evacuation order has been issued. There are seven pre-designated hurricane evacuation pickup points. All evacuation rides are free and will take you to the nearest emergency shelter. Once the evacuation order has been lifted and the area deemed safe, Coast RTA will resume operations returning you to the initial pickup point. The pickup points are listed below, for more information you can call Coast RTA at 843-488-0865 or go to their website at www.CoastRTA.com.

- Inlet Square Mall
- Wal-Mart - Hwy 544
- Coastal Grand Mall
- Ivory Wilson Transfer Center
 - (Next to Myrtle Beach City Hall)
- Food Lion - 79th Ave. North
- Colonial Mall
- Wal-Mart - Gator Hole Plaza (North Myrtle Beach)

Local Hurricane Information

- Horry County Information Line - 843-915-5005 or
 - 843-915-5006
- Horry County Emergency Management - 843-915-5150
- Horry County Government Web www.horrycounty.org

Library Cards

Chapin Memorial Library
400 14th Ave N
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
843-918-1275

Hours: Mon 9-6, Tues 9-8, Wed 9-6, Thurs 9-8, Fri 9-5,
Sat 9-5, Sun Closed

For a 3 month library card the cost is \$8.00

Fireworks

1. No fireworks are allowed in the city limits
2. Outdoor Fires - no open fires
3. No fires on the beach

Noise

Noise disturbance is not permitted up to and including the following:

- No one shall play any television, radio, MP3/CD/Tape player, phonograph or musical instrument in such a manner or with such a volume as to annoy or disturb the quiet or comfort of others.
- No person shall sound a vehicular horn or other audible signal device except as an emergency warning.

Trespassing and Destruction of Property

- Trespassing is not permitted in any way, on any premises or land without legal authority or justification.
- No person shall mischievously or maliciously destroy, deface, injure or cause to be destroyed, defaced or injured any real or personal property belonging to another person.
- Do not steal signs or license plates for souvenirs

Police/Fire - Dial 911 for All Emergencies

Police officers are public servants and can be trusted and are very friendly to students who obey the law and will be very helpful and professional if you become a victim of a crime. Don't be afraid to approach the police at any time. If you are lost and see a police officer, ask for directions.

In the unlikely and unfortunate event that you become a victim of crime, be sure to notify the police immediately.

If you are in need of immediate medical help or your life is in immediate danger, dial 911. For non-emergencies, call the numbers listed below:

Hospitals/Clinics

Be sure to have your insurance card with you when seeking medical care. Follow your sponsor's instructions regarding utilizing provider networks and filing claims. Helpful information may also be found on your sponsor's website. You may be required to pay for service when rendered and submit a claim for reimbursement less any co-pay and/or co-insurance. It is extremely important to notify your sponsor and employer immediately regarding a hospital admission and any medical emergencies.

All dental services are self-pay. If you have traveler's insurance make sure that your insurer will reimburse you for medical expenses.

Beach Weather

The summer is usually hot and humid. The temperature is measured in Fahrenheit instead of Celsius:

32 F = 0 C 68 F = 20 C 95 F = 35 C

Hurricanes - Evacuation in Horry County

When a hurricane hits land, it brings very strong winds--more than 75 miles an hour--rain, high waves, flooding and, sometimes, tornadoes. Even places far inland from the ocean may feel the impact of a hurricane with rain and flooding.

- Hurricanes usually occur between June 1 and November 30.
- Tropical Storm - a depression become a tropical storm with winds 39-73 mph
- Hurricane - a warm core tropical cyclone in which maximum sustained surface winds exceed 73 mph

- Hurricane Watch - when hurricane conditions are possible and may threaten an area for the following 36 hours
- Hurricane Warning - when winds, high water and rough seas are expected with 24 hours or less, with winds of 74 mph or higher

Why do I have to evacuate?

In South Carolina the Governor mandates an evacuation order and it becomes state law. Watch or listen to local TV and radio.

How do I know if I live in an evacuation zone?

- Category 1 or 2 storm, all properties along and east of US 17 Business (Kings Highway) must evacuate.
- Category 3 or 4 storm, all properties along and east of US 17 Bypass must evacuate.
- Category 5 storm, all properties east of the Intracoastal Waterway must evacuate.
- *All mobile homes and campers are evacuated for all hurricanes, even if securely fastened to the ground. In addition, those living in low lying or other areas prone to flooding are asked to evacuate.*

Where do I go when I evacuate?

Shelters are opened as soon as the evacuation order is given. The American Red Cross provides meals at each shelter; however, you are encouraged to bring a pillow, blanket and any other comfort items you will need. For the complete shelter list, please refer to the South Carolina Hurricane Guide. These guides can be found at the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, and at local Red Cross chapters.

Once an evacuation order is lifted, can I return immediately?

Residents, owners, tenants, businesses and other essential personnel will be allowed immediate access into the area ONCE IT IS DEEMED SAFE. However, each city jurisdiction will block off certain areas of their town that may not be safe due to flooding, debris, downed power lines, etc.