

## **BEACH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **MISSION:**

To advise the selectmen on best beach management practices to most effectively achieve and balance the multiple goals of preserving the integrity of the oceanside beaches and dune systems, providing storm protection , and maximizing public access.

To accomplish this mission, the Beach Management Committee has developed the following goals:

To act as a liaison to the citizens about the beach and provide an opportunity for them to voice their concerns, issues, and recommendations.

To provide education to the public about the beach and its management.

To work collaboratively with the Conservation Commission, the Department of Public Works and the Selectmen in identifying actual or potential problems relating to the beach and proposing solutions.

To write, and update as necessary, a Beach Management Plan describing the practices and methods to be used in maintaining the beach as a natural resource, a means for storm protection and as a recreational site under the guidelines of the Wetlands Protection Act.

Selected examples of recent activities undertaken to accomplish the mission and goals:

- Collaboration with the Conservation Commission and Consultant in updating the Beach Management Plan.
- Devised, with the assistance of consultants, a design for more effective beach access paths that provide both greater storm protection as well as easier access to the beach year round.
- Researched and promoted the goals and positive outcomes of participating in the Community Rating System, resulting in a likely reduction of the town's flood insurance premiums.
- Held yearly public forums to solicit public input and inform the community about current and planned beach management activities.
- Identified a need for improved handicapped access to the beach and worked with the Disabilities Commission and Town Manager in a plan to construct Handicapped access structures at A Street.
- Currently gathering information from other communities regarding their beach management practices.
- Wrote a "pooper scooper" by-law that was presented and passed at the Annual Town meeting.
- Initiated and designed, in collaboration with the DPW, new signs for the beach designed to increase public awareness of the regulations and protect the dune system.