Town Update



Here's what has happened in the last 14 months and what's to come!

Dear Residents of the Town of James Island,

It has been a little over a year since you gave me the great honor of electing me as Mayor of our Town. We are fortunate to have an amazing Council and staff that serve along with me. Our goal is to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all our residents. We have made great progress towards accomplishing and maintaining that goal.

I want to thank our incredible volunteers who work tirelessly to provide additional support and help make everything function smoothly and efficiently, from our boards, our committee members and our residents who step up whenever they see a need. They have all helped make James Island an exceptional place to live.

Over the past year we have made great strides in making responsiveness to citizens a top priority, improving drainage, increasing green space by purchasing an amazing new park, enhancing safety and adding sidewalks. We are moving forward with plans for a state of the art community and cultural center that will provide a place for the art and cultural activities that are so important to many of our citizens. We want your input and feedback for our new park and art center. There will be community meetings and surveys to get your ideas.

The Town of James Island is such a special place to live. Our goals for the coming year are to continue to work hard to promote green space and projects and activities to enhance the lives of our residents, improve our environment, and address problems facing our Town and our citizens.

TOWN OF JAMES ISLAND

4

January 2025



Mayor

BROOK LYON

Council Members:

DANIEL C. BOLES LEWIS DODSON DR. CYNTHIA MIGNANO TROY MULLINAX

IN THIS NEWS LETTER

Town Updates

Mill Point Rd - New Park

Arts and Cultural Center Updates

Stormwater Improvements & AmeriCorps Volunteers

Town Market

Tree Protections, Removals and Pruning

New Park and Art & Cultural Center





Mill Point Park

The Town of James Island is proud and excited to announce the purchase of a 6.6 acre property located on Mill Point Rd. This property will be utilized as a passive public park. This beautiful property features a broad array of azalea bushes and camellia trees, marsh front views, a small house that has historical ties to the South Carolina Agricultural Society and a spacious oak grove. The Town plans to maintain the park in approximately its current form.



New Arts & Cultural Center

Due to issues with the building and access to parking, the previous location of the Arts & Cultural Center on Camp Rd. has been closed. Fortunately, the Town has a very exciting opportunity with the construction and opening of a new Arts & Cultural Center on a Town-owned 1 acre lot at the corner of Dills Bluff Rd. and Hillman St. A public meeting was held for community members to give their thoughts and provide input. Many of the participants completed a survey provided by the Town to help steer the new direction of the services and programming. Mayor Brook Lyon is hopeful the new facility will open in 2026.

The Town will continue to accept survey entries through February. If you would like to complete a survey you can do so at the Town's website.

https://www.jamesislandsc.us/new-arts-and-cultural-center-coming-soon/new-arts-and-cultural-center-survey

Presently all Art and Cultural Center activities will be located at Town Hall. To see the calendar of activities, go to www.Jamesislandsc.us/town-calendar

Stormwater Improvements & AmeriCorp Volunteers



We've been busy!

Over the past year we have made great strides working to resolve stormwater and flooding issues in the Town. Several drainage projects have been completed including ones in the Quail Run, Oceanview, Woodhaven, Centerville and Lynwood neighborhoods. The Town has completed these with the help of American Rescue Plan Act funding and utilizing our Stormwater Bank Fund with Charleston County. Our amazing stormwater team works closely with the County, SCDOT and private contractors to help us accomplish these improvements. Cleaning ditches and culverts throughout the Town and responding to drainage requests promptly is a top priority for us. These efforts will be ongoing. We have also enjoyed having the assistance of AmeriCorps volunteers, who have been helping us complete some of these projects since early November and will continue to help us until the end of February.

In addition, to try and help mitigate flooding, the Town offers free sandbags (10 bags per household) at Town Hall during flooding and rain events. Town staff and volunteers, utilizing our new "sandbagger" were able to provide and fill over 17,000 bags to help residents prepare for Hurricane Debby this fall.



Town of James Island First Friday -

Dive into the heart of James Island on the first Friday of each month at the James Island Town Market! Where community, culture, and commerce collide, we offer a vibrant stage for local vendors of all kinds. From artists and foodies to musicians and crafters and more, our market brings our community together for a fun family-friendly event. Enjoy live music, a petting zoo, and crafts for kids, all set against the backdrop of James Island's charm. Join us, where every vendor's dream gets a spotlight!

Up Coming Market Dates:

- February 7th
- March 7th
- April 4th
- May 2nd
- June 6th
- July NO MARKET
- August NO MARKET
- September 5th
- October 3rd
- November 7th
- December 5th

Thank you for reading!

TOWN OF JAMES ISLAND	843-795-4141
www.jamesislandsc.us	1122 Dills Bluff Rd., James Island, SC 29412





Tree Protections, Removals and Pruning

Any tree eighteen inches (18") or greater in diameter at 4.5'ft above the grade (Diameter at Breast Height, or DBH), excluding pine trees and sweet gums, are considered grand trees. DBH can be found by taking the circumference of the tree and dividing that number by 3.14.

On single-family residential lots, only grand trees require permits for removal. On lots that are zoned differently, requirements vary depending on certain conditions such as the health of the trees, location, proposed development, amount of trees existing on the site, etc. Generally speaking, trees that are 8" in diameter or greater are considered protected on commercially-zoned lots.

James Island's tree protection ordinances are in place to protect existing trees, including the Town's extraordinary grand oaks. Trees provide a number of great benefits. The protection and preservation of trees promotes the enhanced health, safety and general welfare of our Town.

For more information, please visit the Town's website and for further guidance, please contact Town Hall. This information pertains the the Town's Tree Protection and Preservation Ordinance (section 15.3334)