



## **NEWCOMER INFORMATION**

*Complements of Rick Saba*

### **EDUCATION:**

Islanders and their families receive quality education through public and private Schools.

### **PUBLIC SCHOOLS:**

Hilton Head Elementary  
10 Wilborn Road  
843.689.7450

Grades: Pre-K – 5

Bluffton Elementary School  
160 H.E. McCracken Circle  
843.706.8500

Grades: K – 5

Michael C. Riley Elementary  
200 Burnt Church Road  
843.706.8300

Grades: K – 5

H.E. McCracken Middle School  
250 H.E. McCracken Circle  
843.706.8700

## **PRIVATE SCHOOLS:**

Hilton Head Christian Academy 55 Gardener Drive 843.681.2878	Grades: 1 – 12
Hilton Head Preparatory School 8 Fox Grape Road 843.671.2286	Grades: 1 – 12
St. Francis Catholic School 45 Beach City Road 843.681.6501	Grades: Pre-K – 8

## **PRE-SCHOOLS AND DAYCARE:**

The Children's Center	145 Mathews Drive	843.681.2379
Christ Lutheran Church	Wm. Hilton Parkway	843.785.6570
First Presbyterian Day School	Wm. Hilton Parkway	843.681.3695
Sea Pines Montessori School	9 Fox Grape Road	843.785.2534
Carolina Day Academy	77 Arrow Road	843.842.8869
Lucky Duck Preschool	B-3 Oak Park	843.681.6790
St. Luke's Children's School	50 Pope Avenue	843.842.8650

## **HIGHER EDUCATION:**

Hilton Head College Center	1 College Center	843.686.3663
Technical College of Lowcountry	1 College Center	843.842.6509
USC/Beaufort/Hilton Head	1 College Center	843.785.3995
Academy for Career Excellence	SC – 170	843.987.8107

## **DRIVER'S LICENSE & AUTO TAGS:**

Residents relocating to Hilton Head must convert to a South Carolina Driver's License within 90 days. A valid existing license, social security card and \$16.00 must be presented to the South Carolina Highway Department office. SC automobile tags must be in place within 45 days of establishing residency. Car title, proof of insurance, a paid property tax receipt and a \$21.00 fee are required to obtain new tags. There is a \$29.00 two year registration and title fee.

South Carolina Highway Department 843.815.6981  
P.O. Box 385  
15 Sheridan Park  
Bluffton, SC 29910  
Hours: Monday – Friday; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## **BUSINESS LICENSE:**

Town of Hilton Head Island  
Revenue Collection Division  
One Town Center Court  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

843.341.4610  
fax: 843.341.4637  
hiltonheadislandsc.gov

## **REAL ESTATE TAXES:**

The county tax assessor bases real estate taxes on an appraised value of property. The appraised value, if computed on comparable sales, condition of property, etc., the appraised value is then multiplied by 4% for residents and 6% for non-resident property owners and corporations, to obtain what is known as the assessed value. The assessed value is multiplied by the millage rate for the appropriate district (Wexford's rate is 213.7).

For example: A \$500,000. Wexford home times 4% (for resident) gives an assessed value of \$20,000 times a millage rate of .2137 means a tax of \$4,274.00

An Island resident of older than 65 is eligible to deduct \$20,000. from assessed value before multiplying. (Homestead Exemption)

A real estate transfer fee of .25 percent (one quarter of one percent) is charged for each real estate transaction closed on Hilton Head Island.

For additional information, contact the Beaufort County Tax Assessor, P.O. Box 458, Beaufort, SC 29901. 843.842.4202 or 842.4206.

## **ANIMAL CONTROL LEASH LAW:**

South Carolina has a state-wide beach law and required all dogs to be licensed. Although positive voice and lease control are enforced, pets are allowed on the beach at all times except from Memorial Day to Labor Day when pets are not allowed on the beach from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Owners are also required to clean up after their pets. Fines can go as high as \$200.00 for failure to comply with this law.

## **PUBLIC LIBRARY:**

The Beaufort County Library System provides a full-service library to Island Residents. A branch with a trained staff is located on Beach City Road. 843.785.3266.

## **FISHING LICENSE:**

	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
Annual	\$10.00	\$35.00
14 Day	\$ 5.00	_____
7 Day	_____	\$11.00

Licenses can be purchased at the Coligny True Value Hardware Store in Coligny Plaza, Wal-Mart or Mid-Island Bait & Tackle (119 Mathews Drive). A fishing license is needed for fresh water fishing only.

## **TAXES:**

State sales tax in South Carolina is 5%.

Personal income tax in South Carolina is similar to the Federal system in that you are allowed deductions from total income and are taxed on the remainder:

2% on first \$2,000.00
3% on next \$2,000.00
4% on next \$2,000.00
5% on next \$2,000.00
6% on next \$2,000.00
7% on all over \$10,000.00

There is a \$3,000.00 Retirement Income Exclusion on the SC state income tax for pensions and distributions from IRA's, SEP's & KEOGH's for persons 65 and older.

South Carolina does not have an intangible personal property tax on bank accounts or stocks, etc. There is a tangible personal property tax on automobiles, airplanes and boats based on the assessed value of 10.5% of the total purchase price. The assessed value is then multiplied by the appropriate millage rate of the district in which you live. (Wexford's rate is 213.7)

## **UTILITIES:**

Island utility companies require a deposit prior to service and installation.

Electric:	Palmetto Electric Cooperative, Inc.	843.681.5551
Telephone:	Hargray Telephone & Communication Co.	843.686.5000
Water:	South Island Public Service	843.785.6224
	Broad Creek Public Service	843.785.7582
	Hilton Head #1 Public Service	843.681.5525
Cable:	Adelphia Cable (Hilton Head)	843.785.5175
	Hargray Cablevision (Bluffton)	843.686.5000

## **BANKING SERVICES:**

There are 17 banks, two savings and loan associations and several investment brokers providing every kind of financial service – including currency exchange.

## **HEALTH & MEDICAL FACILITIES:**

**Public Health:** There is a Beaufort County Health Clinic located in Bluffton. Call 843.757.2251 for days and hours.

### **Private Health Services:**

Family Medical Center	843.842.2900 – South Island Square
Cross Island Medical	843.681.8260
Heritage Medical Center	843.681.5305 – 460 Wm. Hilton Pkwy.
HH Center for Family Medicine	843.341.3232 – 2 Greenwood Drive
HH Medical Center and Clinics	843.681.6122 – 25 Hospital Center Blvd.
Main Street Medical	843-681-3777 – 93 Main Street
Memorial Health Urgent One	843.342.7425 – 460 Wm. Hilton Pkwy.
Parkway Medical Center	843.785.7515 – 845 Wm. Hilton Pkwy.
Hilton Head Hospital	843.681.6111 – Hospital Center Blvd.

Providing acute care, ICU/CCU, OB units and over 100 physicians

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES:**

Hilton Head Island is divided into two fire districts, Hilton Head Island Fire Department and Sea Pines/Forest Beach Fire Department. Law enforcement is provided by Beaufort County Sheriff's Department of South Carolina State Patrol. All emergency Services, including Hilton Head Island Rescue Squad may be reached by dialing 911.

## **VOTER REGISTRATION:**

In order to vote in South Carolina, a voter must be registered. Voters must register 30 days prior to an election. Registration qualifications are:

- U.S. Citizen
- 18 years of age
- Resident of Beaufort County

To register, contact the Voter's Registration Office:

Beaufort County Courthouse Annex  
3 Town Center Court  
843.341.4625

## **COUNTY INFORMATION:**

<b>County:</b>	<b>Beaufort County</b>
<b>County Seat:</b>	<b>City of Beaufort</b>
<b>County Population:</b>	<b>97,425</b>
<b>Hilton Head Island Population:</b>	<b>43,862</b>
<b>Unemployment % of County:</b>	<b>3.5%</b>

## **PERSONNEL AGENCIES:**

**South Carolina Employment Commission**  
**Sheridan Park, Highway 278**  
**Bluffton, SC 29910**  
**843.681.4273**

**Smith Personnel**  
**6 Office Park Road**  
**Hilton Head Island, SC 29928**  
**843.785.4604**

**Tempo Personnel Service**  
**4 Moss Creek Village**  
**Bluffton, SC 29910**  
**843.837.9066**

## **OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS:**

<b>Veterans Administration</b>	<b>843.842.4208</b>
<b>Department of Social Services</b>	<b>843.842.4246</b>
<b>Social Security Office</b>	<b>843.842.4221 or 524.5795</b>
<b>Neighborhood Legal Assistance</b>	<b>843.838.5001</b>
<b>Beaufort County Council</b>	<b>843.785.6100</b>
<b>Town of Hilton Head</b>	<b>843.341.4600</b>
<b>Bluffton Town Hall</b>	<b>843.706.4500</b>
<b>Recycling</b>	<b>843.846.3926</b>

## **NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES:**

<b>Carolina Morning News</b>	<b>843.837.5255</b>
<b>The Island Packet</b>	<b>843.706.8100</b>
<b>The Savannah Business Report</b>	<b>843.231.1110</b>
<b>Hilton Head Monthly</b>	<b>843.842.6988</b>

## **PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS:**

Over 150 organizations exist including:

Professional Women of Hilton Head	843.341.2279
Lions Club	843.842.4422
Rotary Club	843.686.4100
Jaycees	843.681.7900
Zonta Club of Hilton Head	843.671.7070
Community Association	843.681.6368
Island Recreation Association	843.681.7273
Hilton Head Island Board of Realtors	843.842.2421
Sierra Club	843.681.7460
Elks Club	843.681.7460

For a complete list of community organizations, contact the Hilton Head Island Chamber of Commerce at 843.785.3673.

## **CULTURE AND RECREATION:**

Boys & Girls Club 151 Gumtree Road	843.686.3945 (Hilton Head) 843.706.2300 (Bluffton)
Arts Center of Coastal Carolina 14 Shelter Cove Lane	843.686.3945
Coastal Discovery Museum 100 Wm. Hilton Parkway	843.689.6767
Hilton Head Island Recreation Center 20 Wilborn Road	843.681.7273

## **HOUSES OF WORSHIP:**

Nearly 20 different religious sects are represented on Hilton Head Island and in Bluffton.

## **HILTON HEAD WEATHER:**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Avg. Mid-day Temperature</u>	<u>Avg. Evening Temperature</u>	<u>Avg. Ocean Temperature</u>	<u>Avg. Inches Rainfall</u>
January	59	38	52	3.1
February	61	42	54	3.5
March	67	46	59	4.2
April	76	55	67	2.7
May	82	62	75	4.2
June	86	68	82	5.3
July	89	71	84	7.1
August	89	71	84	6.9
September	84	67	80	5.3
October	77	57	73	2.8
November	69	47	63	2.0
December	61	39	54	2.4
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>4.1</b>

## **COMMUNICATIONS:**

Hilton Head Island communications entities provide service in all media areas-Radio, television and print. The Island receives major network broadcasting From affiliates in neighboring Savannah, Georgia and Charleston, South Carolina. In addition, local television stations offer a variety of programming.

Area radio stations broadcast music and news, with formats ranging from classical, Jazz, pop, rock, beach music, easy listening and big band to all news, business Radio and public broadcasting.

Numerous newspapers and magazines are available on the Island. In addition, free Entertainment and activities guides and real estate magazines are offered at Island Stands. The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and USA Today are available at several Island locations.

Newspapers/Magazines: The Island Packet, Carolina Morning News and the Hilton Head Monthly are all available throughout the Island and Bluffton areas.