



Beach Operations Beach Code Enforcement

IMPORTANT NOTICE

June 27, 2016

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to inform you that the Walton County Board of County Commissioners amended the Walton County Waterways and Beach Activities Ordinance (hereinafter "Beach Activities Ordinance") on June 14, 2016. This amendment to the Beach Activities Ordinance, Walton County Ordinance No. 2016-16, became effective on June 16, 2016.

Section 22-54(g)(1) of the Beach Activities Ordinance now states:

"It shall be unlawful for any person to leave an item of personal property on the beach between one hour after dusk and one hour after sunrise, unless a permit has been granted by Walton County."

Section 22-55 of the Beach Activities Ordinance states:

"It shall be unlawful for any person to place, construct or maintain an obstruction on the beach. Obstructions include, but are not limited to ropes, chains, signs, or fences.

Exemption. Sand fences which have received all necessary permits from state and federal agencies are exempt from the prohibition contained in this section."

The term "beach" is defined in the Beach Activities Ordinance as follows:

"Beach means the soft sandy portion of land lying seaward of the seawall or the line of permanent dune vegetation."

If as of the date of this letter you have an obstruction on the beach, including but not limited to ropes, chains, signs, or fences, you are in violation of Section 22-55 of the



Beach Activities Ordinance. If as of the date of this letter you have an obstruction on the beach, including but not limited to ropes chains, signs, or fences that you leave on the beach between one hour after dusk and one hour after sunrise, you are in violation of Sections 22-54(g) and Section 22-55 of the Beach Activities Ordinance.

If you are in violation of either Section 22-54(g) or 22-55 of the Beach Activities Ordinance, you have until July 15, 2016 to correct the violation by removing any obstruction that you have placed, constructed or maintained on the beach, including but not limited to ropes, chains, signs, or fences. If you do not correct this violation on or before July 15, 2016, a citation will be issued to you requiring that you pay a civil penalty of up to \$500.00 per violation.

Additionally, pursuant to Section 22-54(g)(4) of the Beach Activities Ordinance, any item of personal property, including ropes, chains, signs or fences, which remains on the beach between one hour after dusk and one hour after sunrise without a valid permit, may be deemed abandoned and removed from the beach.

Please note that the provisions of the Beach Activities Ordinance only apply to obstructions on the "beach," as that term is defined in the ordinance. If you have a rope, chain, sign or fence that is landward of the seawall or landward of the line of permanent dune vegetation or that is located on your private dune walkover, you are not in violation of Sections 22-54(g) or 22-55. If you are not in violation of Sections 22-54(g) or 22-55 of the Beach Activities Ordinance, no corrective action is needed.

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated. If you would like a copy of the Beach Activities Ordinance, Walton County Ordinance No. 2016-16, please call (850) 892-8110 or visit the following link:
<http://www.co.walton.fl.us/DocumentCenter/View/11984>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff McVay", written over a horizontal line.

Jeff McVay
Code Enforcement Officer