

Rye Beach Committee Report - 2018

The Rye Beach Committee consists of Larry Rocha, Lori Carbajal, Keper Connell, Steve Hillman and Brad Fulkerson. During the summer the Committee had four meetings where they discussed various issues and exchanged ideas based on their observations and conversations with residents and other beach goers. Chief Walsh, Chief Cotreau and Selectman Keri Roman attended many of those meetings.

Below is a list of the Committee's thoughts and recommendations:

As the number of visitors to the beaches in Rye increases the issue of parking is a major concern with many of the residents of Rye. The parking issue must be addressed and not put off. The town of Rye must take some serious steps to deter people from parking illegally. The committee received numerous e-mails and many residents expressed their frustration of cars parking "everywhere". **The Committee recommends:**

- **Increasing the parking fines** to \$75 and \$200 for illegally parking in permit parking only.
- **Hire a towing company to tow cars that are parking illegally.** The Town of Rye should use signage saying, "NO PARKING, CARS WILL BE TOWED AT OWNERS EXPENSE". Those signs are very effective.
- There needs to be **NO LOADING/NO UNLOADING** signage at places like Sawyers Beach. The Rye Beach Committee recommends this ordinance should be strictly enforced.
- The Rye Beach Committee discovered that the **HAMPTON BEACH GUIDE** lists Sawyer's Beach as being owned by the Town of Rye and that a special resident sticker is need to park along Rt 1A but "you can find beach access either along wooden planks laid atop the rocks in season, and a path next to the Rye Beach Club. This means that to have access to the beach people would need to park in the Resident Sticker only area and UNLOAD and LOAD. As mentioned above, this is not acceptable.
- **Perkins Road has become "ground zero" for parking issues** due to its proximity to Jenness Beach State The Rye Beach Committee discussed having NO PARKING on Perkins Road but in the end the **committee is recommending that parking on Perkins Road be for Rye residents with a Beach Parking Permit and "boxing off" the driveways on Perkins Road.** The Rye Beach Committee also recommends that **Old Beach Road and Cable be considered for Rye Residents with a Beach Parking Permit.**
- After four years of documenting car count, the data has been consistent: New Hampshire plates 40%, Quebec plates 35% and Massachusetts plates 20%.
- **The Rye Beach Committee recommends** the Town of Rye and the Board of Selectmen make a formal request for the support of the State for **eliminating RV parking** at the parking lot at Jenness Beach and along Rt. 1A.
- **The Rye Beach Committee recommend not placing a Port-o-Potty at Sawyers Beach** for the following reasons: Environmental Risk, Parking to use facility and Aesthetically Unpleasant.
- Another major concern of the Rye Beach Committee was the planting of **DUNE GRASS** by private homeowners that encroaches on public space beyond their property line. The Committee would **recommend that the Town of Rye be diligent in monitoring any planting of dune grass on our beaches and remove any dune grass that encroaches on public space.**
- Lastly the Rye Beach Committee would like the following be part of their **CHARGE for 2019.** The Rye Beach Committee: have full input regarding all recreational beach permits; should be consulted in unison with the Conservation Committee in aspects and request on all Rye beaches; and be involved with the state RSA to explore and formulate a pay-to-park along Rt. 1A and eliminating oversized vehicles, RVs and campers from parking in the Jenness Beach parking lot and along Rt 1A.