



Town of James Island  
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James Island, SC 29412

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## Pinckney Park Pavilion

The new screened-in picnic shelter with adjoining restrooms, located at 461 Fort Johnson Rd., is now open for the public to enjoy. For more information on upcoming rental availability, visit [www.jamesislandsc.us/pinckney-park](http://www.jamesislandsc.us/pinckney-park). The Town will soon be opening its newest greenbelt property, Brantley Park, which is located at the corner of Folly Rd. and Brantley Dr. This small pocket park will feature dock facilities and tie into the ReThink Folly Rd. Phase I project.



**Mayor Bill Woolsey**

### Town Council

Garrett Milliken, Mayor Pro Tem

Daniel C. Boles

Dr. Cynthia Mignano

Darren “Troy” Mullinax

## Get Involved!

The Town has many ways our citizens can take part and make a difference in important ways. Our Citizen’s Advisory Councils offer unique opportunities for residents to help guide the Town’s future. Take a look at our wide range of engagement activities to suit your specific interest:

Board of Zoning Appeals  
Business Development Council  
Children’s Council  
Helping Hands  
History Council  
James Island Pride  
Neighborhood Council  
Planning Commission

Visit our website to learn more about each group and fill out an interest form.  
[www.jamesislandsc.us/forms-and-documents](http://www.jamesislandsc.us/forms-and-documents)

**Contact us at 843-795-4141**

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# Newsletter



### current topics >>>

## Hurricane Season is upon us

The Town and the City of Charleston are partnering together again this storm season to issue sandbags for James Islanders at Town Hall. Given COVID protocols, here are a few changes you need to be aware of:

1. Expect longer delays as a limited number of people will be allowed to fill bags at one time.
2. Residents should bring their own shovels and PPE to include gloves and face masks.
3. Households are limited to 10 bags each. You are encouraged to use supplies saved from previous storms.



## COVID-19 What you need to know



COVID-19 has caused great hardship for many James Islanders. While hospitalizations and deaths are not reported by locality, DHEC estimates that nearly 7% of James Islanders were infected with the disease in early July.

Fortunately, James Islanders have practiced social distancing and used face coverings to gradually reduce infections to slightly more than 1% by late August. DHEC

estimates imply that more than 18% of James Islanders have had COVID-19 and recovered. The economic impact was also severe for many island residents. Unemployment claims during May and June implied an unemployment rate of near 20%.

The Town has continued to provide services throughout the crisis, though for a time, Town Hall was closed to the public for limited hours from 10 am to 2 pm, but we continue to encourage contacting Town staff by phone and email. Many Town meetings have been held on Zoom. Watch the Town website and other social media for information about how to participate. As the incidence of COVID-19 grew rapidly on

Town Council responded by passing an emergency ordinance that requires Town businesses to require all their staff and customers to wear face coverings.

**Please continue to help us fight this disease. Practice social distancing – at least six feet.**

This ordinance is like that of Charleston County. The Town has received complaints about businesses failing to comply and our Code Enforcement officer has investigated. Please continue to help us fight this disease. Practice social distancing – at least six feet. When that is difficult or impossible, such as when entering a store or restaurant, wear a face covering. Wash your hands often and try to avoid touching your face. By limiting activities that create a high risk of contagion, we can slow the spread of the disease, and avoid overburdening our hospitals and the State’s public health system.

**Thank you, Mayor Bill Woolsey**



Upcoming projects >>>

# Safety & Pedestrian Improvements

Many infrastructure projects are currently underway on James Island and funded through a variety of ways, including transportation sales dollars and matches from local entities, such as the Town, City, Charleston County, SCDOT, etc. These partnerships leverage your dollars to make James Island a safer, more pedestrian-friendly community.

## Folly Rd. Phase I

The ReThink Folly Rd. Steering Committee has put forth an 8 ft. wide sidewalk and intermittent green marked bike lanes along Folly Rd. from Ellis Creek to Wilton St. (Walmart). This project is in its final design and permitting stage.



## Intersection Improvements

The new roundabout at the Riverland Dr. and Camp Rd. intersection is nearing completion and will be followed by a sidewalk/multi-use path from Folly Rd. to the Lowcountry Senior Center. There is also a planned roundabout at the Ft. Johnson and Camp Rd. intersection which is still in the design phase. Further up Ft. Johnson at Secessionville, there is a planned stop light with turn lanes, and at Central Park and Riverland Drive, design alternatives are still being reviewed by Charleston County Council and SCDOT.



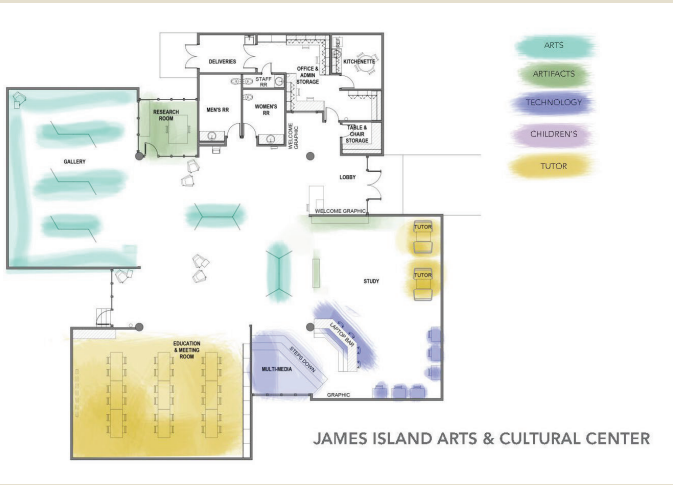
## Other Projects

A new multi-use path with drainage improvements will be under construction soon along Lighthouse Blvd, and Phase III of the Dills Bluff Sidewalk project, continuing from Seaside Lane to Winborn Dr. is in permitting. Design is underway for a sidewalk along Regatta Rd. to Nabors Drive and improvements to the Dills Bluff and Camp Rd. intersection including new streetscape lighting will soon be installed.

Coming soon >>>

# The James Island Arts & Cultural Center

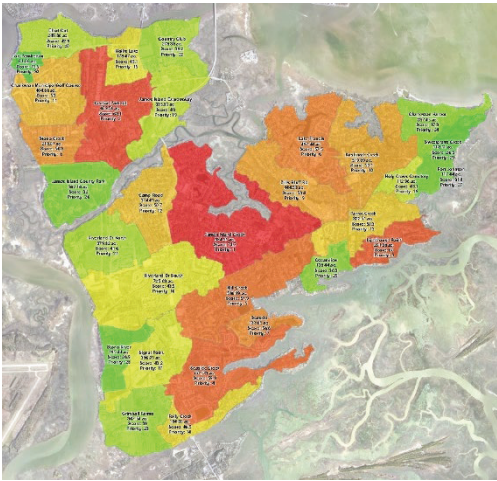
Last year, Charleston County leased the old library space at 1248 Camp Rd. for an educational use to the Town. A group of stakeholders have been diligently working to put together a plan for the new space. Representatives from the JI Arts Council, JI History Council, JI Pride, First Baptist Church of James Island, Opportunity Calls Everyone, and Empower our Youth have worked with Town staff and the design team at Liollio to reconfigure the old library space into a new, educational area that will house local art, historic artifacts, and to be a place where our residents and youth can gather for meeting and tutoring space. The new facility is slated to open in 2021.



If you have any historical pieces relating to James Island you'd be willing to lend to the space, please email [info@jamesislandsc.us](mailto:info@jamesislandsc.us) with an item description, contact information, and a photograph.

# Island-Wide Drainage Study & Improvements

The Town of James Island, along with Charleston County and the City of Charleston, joined together to complete an island-wide Watershed Study of James Island, laying the framework for future improvements.



Map of James Island Drainage Basins

The project, conducted by Thomas & Hutton (T&H), studied various drainage metrics of the area, assessed and made a formal report on the conditions of the existing drainage system, and developed a drainage masterplan to assist in focusing resources to address drainage issues on the island. Using the data collected, T&H delineated 30 basins that contribute to James Island's major outfalls. That data included everything from work order requests to FEMA claims, hydraulic elevations, etc.

An important component of the findings was identifying areas where the existing infrastructure's level of service needed improvement through repairing or replacing the current system, and also highlighting areas where re-establishing roadside swales to improve positive drainage is needed.

While the James Island Creek basin was identified as priority #1, there are many other areas of concern where improvements are already well under-way. The City of Charleston and Charleston County have already begun improvements to the Central Park and Signal Point drainage basins, and the Town has projects underway in other areas including installing tidal gate devices on outfalls. The Town is also working across jurisdictions to re-establish ditch systems and has hired T&H to develop a more robust asset management system that will aid in routine maintenance work and long-range planning for system upgrades.

Visit [www.jamesislandsc.us/work-order-request](http://www.jamesislandsc.us/work-order-request) for help with a drainage concern.

# Rising Tides & Preventing Flooding

One way municipalities are tackling increased flooding is by installing tidal gate devices on outfalls. This helps prevent saltwater and pluff mud from backing into the drainage system, particularly during a King tide or storm surge event.

# Cleaning up the Creek

Earlier this year, the James Island Intergovernmental Council passed a Resolution establishing a Water Quality Task Force which seeks to routinely monitor and establish a plan to improve the water quality of the James Island Creek watershed, an integral part of James Island's ecological and recreational makeup. How can you help? Visit <http://charlestonwaterkeeper.org/get-involved/>

# Town Comprehensive Plan Review

The Town of James Island's Planning Commission is currently working on the 5 year review of the Town's Comprehensive Plan, which guides future redevelopment and preservation efforts. Give us your feedback! The current plan can be viewed on the Town website and comments or suggestions can be emailed to [planning@jamesislandsc.us](mailto:planning@jamesislandsc.us).

New Stormwater Regulations >>>

**Q:** How will this affect me?  
**A:** While all residents will see the benefits, only property owners making substantial improvements or increasing their overall impervious area will have to comply by reducing their run-off in some way. Small changes such as installing a rain garden can have a big impact. Visit the Town's website for more information.



Deputy Christopher King with the Town of James Island

# Meet Deputy

The Town expanded upon its Island Sheriff's Patrol program this budget year with the hire of a full-time deputy. In addition to the deputies who work daily shifts dedicated to the Town limits, Deputy King is assigned to Town Hall during normal business hours. Deputy Christopher King has been with the Sheriff's Department since 2017 and previously was assigned to James Island Elementary as a School Resource Officer. Deputy King can be reached by calling Town Hall or emailing him directly [cking@jamesislandsc.us](mailto:cking@jamesislandsc.us)