

Town of South Bethany

News Update

January 25, 2016

The weather event "JONAS" was powerful!

Winds exceeded 60 mph. The majority of our dune suffered a substantial loss, and from Jamaica Street to our southern end all of our dune was lost. All beach walkways are closed. There was minimal flooding on Bayside. Scroll down to the bottom to see pictures for a visual understanding.

Our staff did a wonderful job during the weather event. Maintenance was in action all hours of the day, our Town Manager toured the dune damage with me early Saturday, and our Police Chief and I patrolled every street. We all attended the weather calls and monitored reports throughout the event. Officers Loulou and Hudson maintained a solid presence during the weekend.

Chief Crowson and Patrolman Loulou performed a rescue with our Humvee for our neighbors in Ocean View. We were fortunate to have the vehicle to do so.

Our neighboring towns sustained flooding and dune damage with Bethany Beach faring the worst and totally losing their dune.

There is much to repair and clean up. Sand fence is gone, roof shingles and gutters are strewn about, and many grills and patio furniture have blown around. It is important that owners check their homes for any damage or concern. There have been burst pipes, broken windows, and open sliders found as a result of the weather event.

The Army Corps of Engineers and DNREC are currently assessing the storm damage along the coast. With beach replenishment not in place until 2017, I have been in contact with the legislative offices of Carper and Carney and spoken directly with Sussex County's Rob Arlett who phoned me. Tony Pratt of DNREC has also been in touch by email in response to a photo of our dune loss that I sent to him. As information regarding our dune repair arrives, another News Update will be sent.

Please note that sand fence and walkway repairs are a DNREC responsibility. South Bethany does not have any authority to do this.

Thank you.



Southern End of Dune



South 3rd Street Walkway



Bristol



York



Carlisle



Stranded Vehicle in Ocean View



South Bethany Humvee to the Rescue



Ocean View Officer in Wetsuit Assisting Motorist



Humvee at Bristol



Tamarack

Pat Voveris
Mayor

"The Best Little Beach in Delaware"