

# GALVESTON ISLAND PARK BOARD OF TRUSTEES



## About the GALVESTON PARK BOARD

**T**he Galveston Park Board of Trustees is a non-profit government entity created by the Texas Legislature in 1962 for the purpose of directing all of Galveston's tourism efforts. The Park Board oversees several island beach parks and the Galveston Island Beach Patrol. The Park Board also oversees the Galveston Island Convention & Visitors Bureau whose mission is to promote Galveston as a premier beach destination. The organization is funded solely by Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue and beach-user fees and receives no property or sales tax.

## How Tourism Supports GALVESTON'S GROWTH

Tourism is a dynamic and productive part of the economy, providing small businesses employment opportunities in a range of services and amenities. The Galveston Island Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) spends more than \$3 million annually on marketing and sales efforts to promote Galveston, generating an 8-1 return on investment. The Park Board supports the quality and safety of the island by investing more than 32,000 hours into beach maintenance at the island's beach parks each year. In addition, the Galveston Island Beach Patrol performed more than 50,000 preventative safety actions last year alone.

## Beach Park FACILITIES

Park Board facilities offer a hassle free day at the beach by providing showers, restrooms and food and beverage concessionaires along with trash and seaweed maintenance. Admission to each park is \$8 per vehicle.

- **R.A. APFFEL PARK (EAST BEACH)** is an alcohol permitted beach and serves as a venue for special events and concerts. The park includes a new pavilion with food and beverage concessions and a boardwalk with an entertainment stage. This summer, the park will offer a new live music series most Sundays from 1-4pm. TEL 409.515.5111
- **STEWART BEACH** is a family fun beach with kid-friendly entertainment including a new playground, food, beverages, showers and restrooms. No alcohol is permitted. TEL 409.747.5182
- **SEAWOLF PARK** is home to the American Undersea Warfare Center with tours of military vessels. Seawolf Park offers recreational activities for kids plus some of the best fishing on the island. Park improvements include a new bulkhead, which provides greater safety for fishermen. TEL 409.797.5114
- **DELANERA RV PARK** is one of only two beachfront RV parks on the island with state-of-the-art facilities to accommodate the newest vehicles. Day passes for beach users also available. TEL 409.797.5103
- **WEST END BEACH POCKET PARKS** are currently undergoing renovations. Beach parking and port-a-pots available. Pavilions to open by summer 2014. TEL 409.797.5102

## GALVESTON ISLAND PASS

Visit our exclusive website and save up to 40% off attractions. Buy at [www.galvestonislandpass.com](http://www.galvestonislandpass.com).

Accessible to people with disabilities. For more information, call 409.797.5102.

## Why Tourism MATTERS TO YOU

More than

**6 MILLION PEOPLE**   
visit Galveston Island annually, generating an estimated **\$880 MILLION**  
in economic impact to the island's tourism industry.

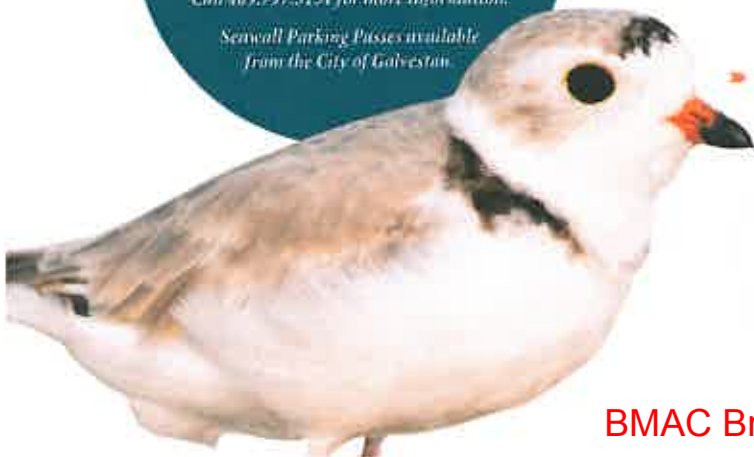
- in 2012, state and local tourism tax proceeds of **\$59.7 MILLION** helped offset the average household tax burden by **\$2,800 per household**.

## ★ ★ ★ Best Deal in Town!

If you visit the beach parks regularly, pick up an annual park pass for \$29, which includes year-round admission to all Park Board managed facilities.

Call 409.797.5151 for more information.

Seawall Parking Passes available from the City of Galveston.



In 2012, approximately **32% (9,571)** OF ALL JOBS ON THE ISLAND WERE SUSTAINED BY **TOURISM**.

## Galveston Park Board of Trustees COASTAL ZONE MAINTENANCE POLICY

Emergency debris control services along all 32 miles of Galveston beaches are provided by the Park Board Coastal Zone Maintenance Crew. Residents can contact the Park Board for service.

Seaweed and trash removal service is provided along the Seawall Urban Park (between 10th and 103rd streets) and at Park Board facilities, including: R.A. Appfel Park, Stewart Beach, Dellanera RV Park and the three West End County Pocket Parks.

Trash and litter removal is provided by the Park Board at West End beach access points. Visit [www.galvestonparkboard.com](http://www.galvestonparkboard.com) for a complete list of Park Board serviced access points.

## Frequently Asked QUESTIONS

### WHAT IS SEAWEED?

Seaweed, also known as gulfweed or sargassum, is a free-floating algae found in warm coastal waters. Seaweed provides crucial habitat for a wide variety of marine animals in the open ocean, as well as onshore for animals like sea turtles and marine birds.

### WHEN IS SEAWEED SEASON?

Seaweed season on the Gulf Coast fluctuates as Mother Nature sees fit. However, seaweed typically washes up on Galveston's beaches May through July.

### WHY DOES THE PARK BOARD NOT REMOVE SEAWEED?

Seaweed has many environmental benefits including helping to retain sand on Galveston beaches and providing an environment for natural dune formations. Park Board crews push seaweed away from the shoreline to provide easy access to the Gulf for beach goers.

### WHEN ARE PARK BOARD SEAWEED MAINTENANCE CREWS ON THE BEACH?

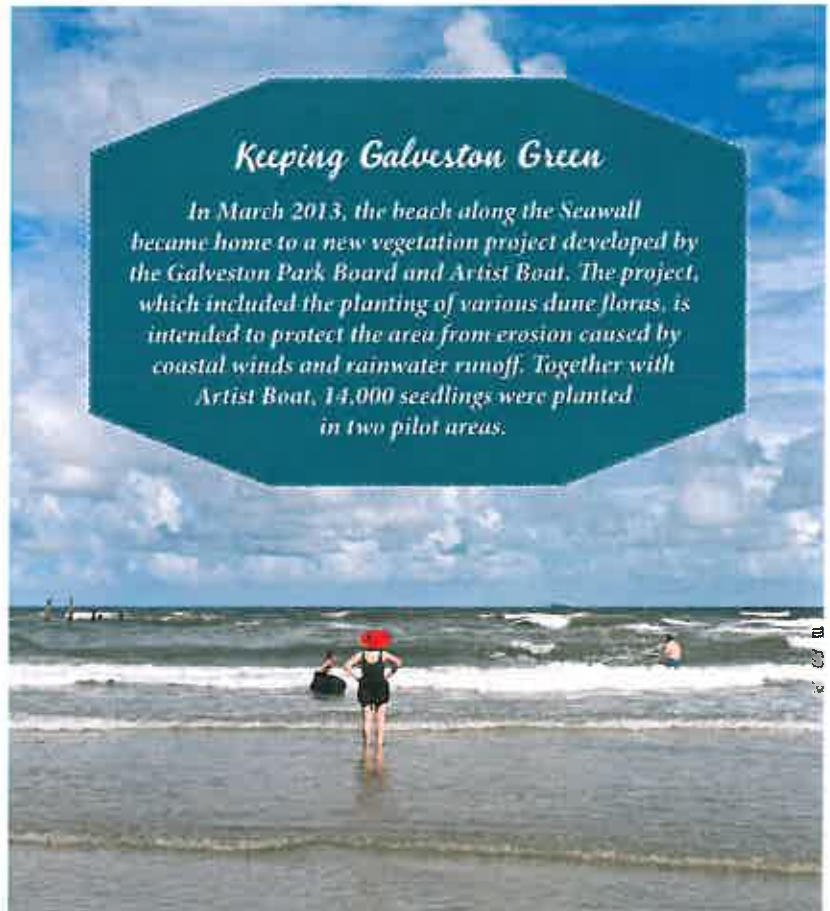
Seaweed maintenance crews operate as needed depending on seaweed levels, which can be daily during peak season. For safety reasons, the crews operate at low-traffic times for the beach parks, typically after 9 p.m. through the early morning.

### IF I REPRESENT A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION OR RESIDENCE CAN I CLEAN MY OWN BEACH?

Homeowner's associations or residences may contract with private companies for seaweed maintenance needs after obtaining proper permits from the City of Galveston.

For more information visit:

[www.cityofgalveston.org/\\_private/newstool/cewsdoc/Beachfront\\_Application\\_41509.pdf](http://www.cityofgalveston.org/_private/newstool/cewsdoc/Beachfront_Application_41509.pdf)



**Wear Your GREEN Proudly**

Stop by the Galveston Visitor Information Center located inside Ashton Villa for a complimentary "Clean, Green, Pristine" turtle bumper sticker.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND A COPY OF THE 2011-2012 GALVESTON PARK BOARD ANNUAL REPORT, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.GALVESTONPARKBOARD.ORG](http://WWW.GALVESTONPARKBOARD.ORG)

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