



# OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Week of August 29, 2011 to September 4, 2011

### MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2011

**WEEKLY MEETING:** CONVENTION CENTER - 40TH STREET

**CREW CHIEF MEETING:** 0800hrs

**AREA MEETING WITH SERGEANTS:** 0815hrs

**SEMAPHORE TEST:** 0820hrs—REQUIRED TO PASS PROBATIONARY STAGE

**CREW MEETING:** 0830hrs (Turn in individual stats, get schedule and assignments, information from Crew Chief)

**OFFICERS' MEETING:** 0830hrs

**GENERAL MEETING:** 0845hrs

**LIEUTENANTS' MEETING:** Cancelled

**OCBPSRA:** None

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Run Day— Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet /5<sup>th</sup> /74<sup>th</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 0804hrs and 2030hrs

Low: 0202hrs and 1418hrs

**Special Events:** None

**Notice \*\*\*\* MONDAY, September 5, 2011 \*\*\*\*Notice**  
**Last Opportunity To Take the Semaphore Test for 2011**

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2011

**Officer-in-Charge:** Lt. Ward Kovacs

**OCBPSRA:** None

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Swim Day— Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet /3<sup>rd</sup> /72<sup>nd</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 0853rs and 2118hrs

Low: 0246hrs and 1509hrs

**Special Events:** None

S.R.T. Name:	Monday 8/29/2011	Tuesday 8/30/2011	Wednesday 8/31/2011	Thursday 9/1/2011	Friday 9/2/2011	Saturday 9/3/2011	Sunday 9/4/2011	CREW
<b>Daily Assignment</b>								
								Totals
<b>Rescues</b>								
<b>Preventative actions</b>								
<b>First Aids</b>								

## **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2011**

**Officer-in-Charge:** Lt. Ward Kovacs

**OCBPSRA:** None

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Run Day— Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet /1<sup>st</sup> /70<sup>th</sup>

**Tides:** High: 0944hrs and 2206hrs

Low: 0331hrs and 1601hrs

**Special Events:** None

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2011**

**Officer-in-Charge:** Lt. Ward Kovacs

**OCBPSRA:** None

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Swim Day— Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet /Caroline /68<sup>th</sup>

**Tides:** High: 1035hrs and 2256hrs

Low: 0418hrs and 1656hrs

**Special Events:** None

## **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2011—Pay Day**

**Officer-in-Charge:** Lt. Mike Stone

**OCBPSRA:** None

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Run Day— Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet /66<sup>th</sup> /146<sup>th</sup>

**Tides:** High: 1127hrs and 2347hrs

Low: 0508hrs and 1755hrs

**Special Events:** Labor Day Weekend Art & Craft Festival—Convention Center—1000hs to 1700hrs

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2011**

**OCBP 2012 Pre-Employment Physical Skills Evaluation #2:** Dorchester St. & Boardwalk—1100hrs

**OCBPSRA:** None

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Swim Day— Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** 64<sup>th</sup> /144<sup>th</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 1223hrs

Low: 0601hrs and 1857hrs

**Special Events:** Labor Day Weekend Art & Craft Festival—Convention Center—1000hs to 1700hrs

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2011**

**OCBPSRA:** None

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Run Day— Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** 62<sup>nd</sup> /142<sup>nd</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 2442hrs and 1325hrs

Low: 0659hrs and 2002hrs

**Special Events:** Labor Day Weekend Art & Craft Festival—Convention Center—1000hs to 1700hrs

### **The Exiting Process**

#### **Reminder!**

Make sure that you have completed and turned in all necessary paperwork, equipment, and/or provided the required official documentation before leaving.

#### **Bring the following to Headquarters:**

- Notification of Last Day Agreement
- Official Documentation of your Next Commitment
- All Uniforms and Equipment
- Fall Employment Agreement

### **Equipment Turn in Procedure for Full Time Changing to Part-Time**

If you live more than 30 miles away, you are required to turn in all equipment once you end your full-time position (available 7 days a week). If you are working part-time after this time, you will pick up equipment before you are scheduled for duty.

# MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2011—Labor Day!

**WEEKLY MEETING:** CONVENTION CENTER - 40TH STREET

**CREW CHIEF MEETING:** 0800hrs

**SEMAPHORE TEST:** 0820hrs—REQUIRED TO PASS PROBATIONARY STAGE-LAST OPPORTUNITY FOR 2011!

**CREW MEETING:** 0830hrs (Turn in individual stats, get schedule and assignments, information from Crew Chief)

**OFFICERS' MEETING:** 0830hrs

**GENERAL MEETING:** 0845hrs

**LIEUTENANTS' MEETING:** 0945hrs

**OCBPSRA:** None

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Swim Day— Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet /60<sup>th</sup> /140<sup>th</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 0144hrs and 1433hrs

Low: 0800hrs and 2111hrs

**Special Events:** None

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2011

**Officer in Charge:** Lieutenant Ward Kovacs

**FALL PATROL MEETING—HQ Training Room—0830hrs**

**OCBPSRA:** None

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Run Day— Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet /58<sup>th</sup> /138<sup>h</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 0254hrs and 1545hrs

Low: 0904hrs and 2219hrs

**Reminder**

**If you are not returning to work after Labor Day, all equipment must be returned after work Monday, or it will be deducted from your last paycheck. Once deducted, you will have to wait for reimbursement, which may take an additional four weeks.**

### UPCOMING 2011 BEACH PATROL EVENTS

Sept. 3	OCBP Pre-Employment Physical Skills Evaluation
May 28	Memorial Day—1 <sup>st</sup> Day of 2012 Summer Season
Sept. 6	Fall Patrol Meeting-Training Room—0830hrs
Sept. 25	Last Day of 2011 Season
Sept. 26	First Day of Extended Patrol

### Upcoming Town of Ocean City Special Events

Labor Day Weekend Art & Craft Festival	Sept. 2-4	Convention Center	1000hrs
OC Bike Fest	Sept. 15-18	Inlet Lot	1000hrs to 1900hrs
Gem, Jewelry, & Mineral Show	Sept. 16-18	Convention Center	1000hrs to 1800hrs
Sunfest	Sept. 22-25	Inlet Lot	1000hrs to 2200hrs
Winefest	Sept. 30-Oct. 1	Inlet Lot	1100hrs to 1900hrs
Harbor Day at the Docks	Oct. 1	Sunset Ave.	1000hrs to 1700hrs
OC Coin & Currency Show	Oct. 1-2	Convention Center	1000hrs to 1700hrs
Oktoberfest	Oct. 14-15	40 <sup>th</sup> St.	1100hrs to 2300hrs
Making Strides Against Breast Cancer	Oct. 15	5 <sup>th</sup> St & Boardwalk	0900hrs

<u>Stats.</u>	<u>Week 13</u> 8/15/11 to 8/21/11	<u>Week 13</u> Year-To- Date 2011	<u>Week 14</u> 8/16/10 to 8/22/10	<u>Week 14</u> Year-To- Date 2010	<u>Week 14</u> 8/17/09 to 8/23/09	<u>Week 14</u> Year-To- Date 2009
<b>Action</b>						
Preventions	3435	76630	4569	58840	9219	63067
Rescues	31	1420	106115	2305	242	2898
Minor First Aid	190	1881	142	1575	147	1378
Ambulance Calls	25	281	14	195	18	251
Police Calls	6	67	1	60	11	68
USCG/MDNRP	0	8	0	10	0	4
Lost/Found Persons	38	507	24	519	59	645
N. Surf Beach Population	2	517	5	1175	27	589
S. Surf Beach Population	178	2310	130	3100	72	3914
Inlet Surf Beach Population	17	725	NA	1895	96	842
Beach Wheelchair Usage	44	400	32	390	34	369

**Request for Recommendations**

Between seasons, I am often asked to complete references and recommendations. If you need me to provide something like this for you, I ask that you make the request in writing. In that request you should give me any information that will help me in giving you the best possible recommendation. I will need to know whom it goes to and if there is a particular format or form that is required. It will also be helpful to remind me of some of the Beach Patrol activities that you have been involved in, such as JBP, Camps, special duties, etc. I also will need a fair amount of lead-time since personnel files are secured in Ocean City while I am in La Plata. You may send your request by e-mail or if you are required to mail to a physical address, you may use:

Captain Butch Arbin  
134 West Quail Lane  
La Plata, Maryland 20646

**Employee Evaluations – Not the Entire Picture**

Although having satisfactory evaluations is very important, they are only one aspect of each person's summative performance rating. Employee commendations, incidents, responsibility for equipment, amount of time worked, amount of time taken off, fulfilling work agreement, and last day worked are all considered by the review panel. Only once a full and complete assessment is made will a final recommendation be made to the Captain, regarding an employee's status for the next season.

**OCBP Surf Rescue Association – Price List**

- Classic Grey or White Ringer T-Shirts-navy collar \$10.00
- Grey T-shirts-\$10.00
- Tie Dye T-shirts-L/XL-\$15.00
- Adult Sweatshirts-with OCBP on front & logo on back-\$30.00
- Adult Sweatshirts with-logo on back only-\$25.00
- Sweatpants \$20.00
- Captain Craig T-Shirts \$10.00
- Beige Long-sleeved T-shirts \$15.00
- Whistles \$5.00
- Lanyards \$6.00
- Red SRT Lanyards-\$5.00
- Buoy Key Chains \$4.00
- "Only God Saves More Lives"-\$3.00 or 2 for \$5.00
- OCBP stickers-\$3.00 or 2 for \$5.00
- Ocean City Beach Patrol car window sticker \$2.00
- Beach Patrol Logo Tattoos \$.25
- Hats – 1 for \$6.00 or 2 for \$10.00
- Swim Caps \$5.00
- CDs-\$5.00



**DO NOT FORGET THE BEACH PATROL WHEN YOU MAKE CHANGES**

If you make any changes in the contact information that you have on file with us, it is your responsibility to let us know. If this coming season is as we predict, we will not be allowing personnel to return who have missed deadlines. Having mail returned or lost in forwarding may cause you to miss an important deadline.

**E-mail** – With free accounts and school accounts that are often changed you need to let us know immediately. We use e-mail to keep everyone informed of events and activities as well as confirming information and to get out quick updates.

**Winter address** – This is used to send U.S. mail such as newsletters, incentive checks, invitations to return, and other paperwork.

**Permanent address** – This address is not used by the Beach Patrol but is used by the Town of Ocean City to send tax information (W-2).

**Important Notice**

**Please note the dates and times of the remaining weekly meetings and adjust your calendar accordingly.**

Monday, August 29  
Convention Center—0800hrs

Monday, September 5 (Labor Day)  
Convention Center—0800hrs

Tuesday, September 6 (Start of Fall Patrol)  
HQ Training Room—0830hrs

**Beginning on Sunday, September 11, the weekly meetings will move to City Hall on Sundays.**

Sunday, September 11  
City Hall—0830hrs

Sunday, September 18  
City Hall—0830hrs

Sunday, September 25  
City Hall—0830hrs



Follow the Beach Patrol on Facebook  
Go to [www.ococean.com/ocbp](http://www.ococean.com/ocbp)  
Click on



See daily updates, safety tips, and photos.

**Follow the OCBP on Twitter!**

If you send a text message saying "Follow OCBP\_HQ" to 40404, the tweets will appear as text messages on your cell phone. Tides & surf beaches go out prior to 1000hrs daily. You can also tell beach patrons. Even if they don't really use Twitter, they can still get the messages on their cell (TXT rates apply).



**2011-2012 Off-Season Contact Information**

*The following numbers and addresses will ensure that you have all available means to communicate with the OCBP.*

*Keep this page available for future reference.*

Ocean City Beach Patrol

P.O. Box 158

Ocean City, MD 21843

410-289-7556

Rec. & Parks: 410-250-0125

Captain Butch Arbin

134 Quail Lane

La Plata, MD 20646

240-349-2834

[barbin@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:barbin@oceancitymd.gov)

[barbin@ococean.com](mailto:barbin@ococean.com)

Lt. Skip Lee

Lt. Wes Smith:

Lt. Mike Stone:

Lt. Ward Kovacs:

Sgt. Ryan Cowder

Sgt. Tim Uebel:

Sgt. Ed Fisher:

Sgt. Rick Cawthern:

Sgt. Marc Bouloucon:

Sgt. Brent Weingard:

Sgt. Jamie Falcon

Sgt. Colby Kauffman:

Sgt. Steve Fowler

Sgt. Jeff Brabitz

Sgt. Mat Postell

Debi Tyler

Stella Malone

Kristin Joson

[slee@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:slee@oceancitymd.gov)

[wsmith@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:wsmith@oceancitymd.gov)

[mstone@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:mstone@oceancitymd.gov)

[wkovacs@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:wkovacs@oceancitymd.gov)

[rcowder@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:rcowder@oceancitymd.gov)

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[efisher@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:efisher@oceancitymd.gov)

[rcawthern@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:rcawthern@oceancitymd.gov)

[mbouloucon@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:mbouloucon@oceancitymd.gov)

[bweingard@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:bweingard@oceancitymd.gov)

[jfalcon@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:jfalcon@oceancitymd.gov)

[ckauffman@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:ckauffman@oceancitymd.gov)

[sfowler@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:sfowler@oceancitymd.gov)

[jbrabitz@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:jbrabitz@oceancitymd.gov)

[mpostell@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:mpostell@oceancitymd.gov)

[dtyler@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:dtyler@oceancitymd.gov)

[smalone@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:smalone@oceancitymd.gov)

[kjason@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:kjoson@oceancitymd.gov)

[ocbp55@comcast.net](mailto:ocbp55@comcast.net)

[wes@miami.edu](mailto:wes@miami.edu)

[mkstone13@hotmail.com](mailto:mkstone13@hotmail.com)

[ryancowder@hotmail.com](mailto:ryancowder@hotmail.com)

[timtubal@gmail.com](mailto:timtubal@gmail.com)

[Edward\\_Fisher@fc.mcps.k12.md.us](mailto:Edward_Fisher@fc.mcps.k12.md.us)

[surfrac@comcast.com](mailto:surfrac@comcast.com)

[mbouloucon@hotmail.com](mailto:mbouloucon@hotmail.com)

[hairear@aol.com](mailto:hairear@aol.com)

[jfalcon465@yahoo.com](mailto:jfalcon465@yahoo.com)

[colbykauffman@yahoo.com](mailto:colbykauffman@yahoo.com)

[sfowler85@gmail.com](mailto:sfowler85@gmail.com)

[brabitzj@yahoo.com](mailto:brabitzj@yahoo.com)

[gpostell@aacps.org](mailto:gpostell@aacps.org)

[debiocbp@aol.com](mailto:debiocbp@aol.com)

[bystarlight@verizon.net](mailto:bystarlight@verizon.net)

[kjason@ccboe.com](mailto:kjoson@ccboe.com)

*Discover an Ocean of Fun!*

*Ocean City Recreation & Parks*



## OCBP Question-of-the-Week for The Worcester County Times

***This Week's Question:*** I was on the beach the other day and noticed water almost like a swimming pool behind the guard stand. I have never seen this before but my kids sure loved playing in it. Does this happen often and what causes it?

We commonly refer to these as tide pools. However, they are not only formed by the outgoing tide but are also formed when large waves are driven further onto the beach by wind or during storms. Tropical activity in the Atlantic over the past several weeks has caused larger than usual waves and surf conditions. These waves bring more water onto the beach and if it becomes trapped in a low area a "tide pool" may form. These low areas on the beach are formed as waves push sand into large mounds running parallel to the shore with the area behind the mound (to the west) being lower than this newly formed retaining mound. As water is pushed over this mound, it cannot make its way back into the ocean as runoff and becomes trapped in the low lying area. Although the amount of water, the size of the low lying area and the depth of low lying area, may vary from a few inches to a few feet deep and the size may be as small as a backyard pool or as large as several city blocks, most tide pools are only a few inches deep and less than a block long. Because of the relatively small quantity of water, the sun heats it and it is much warmer than the ocean and it usually has no wave action making it very inviting. When a child comes to the beach and finds a tide pool, they become very excited. It is like having a backyard pool on the beach. However, tide pools pose their own dangers. Because a tide pool seems like the perfect place for small children to play, parents often do not give the same attention to their children as they would if they were playing in the ocean. Further complicating this is the fact that most often the tide pool ends up forming behind the guard stands. This means that the SRT (lifeguard) is only scanning this area as part of their secondary scan giving much less attention to this water hazard than the large body of water directly in front of them. Parents often have a false sense of security due to the shallow depth of most of these tide pools but those of us in water safety realize it only takes 1 inch of water to drown a toddler. A second hazard associated with this phenomenon is the risk of injuries from running and jumping into such a shallow area. Although not a safety concern another potential issue has to do with this trapped water becoming stagnant, dirty, and smelly. Therefore, the Public Works Maintenance Department sculpts the beach to facilitate the drainage of these tide pools after they have remained for a couple of days.

Sometimes you might find a tide pool that behaves more like a waterslide than a pool. In this instance wave action is bringing more water into the low area while breaks in the retaining mound allow water to flow back into the ocean resulting in strong currents being formed in the tide pool. When this happens the tide pool becomes far more dangerous as people playing in the tide pool might find themselves washed into the ocean. Tide pools can be fun when enjoyed safely.

***Last Week's Question:*** : When I came to the beach last year around this time, the lifeguards were not allowing any swimmers in the ocean at all one day, yet I saw surfers out in the ocean. The weather seemed like it was a great beach day and I was surprised I wasn't even allowed to go wading. Why?

This is the time of year that Ocean City experiences an increase in the volume and size of waves due to tropical activity in the Atlantic. August and September are traditionally our large surf months, producing larger waves, dangerous rip currents and hazardous shorebreak. Larger waves bring more water into shore, which has to escape out through the rips, meaning that rip currents become larger, longer, faster moving and deadlier. As these systems move closer to our coast, the impact becomes greater and the potential for dangerous conditions becomes more likely. The weekend that you are referring to from last year had a high tide, which occurred at 10 a.m. We had 4-6 foot wave height with an occasional 8-foot swell breaking right on the beach called shorebreak. As a result it was unsafe for anyone to be in the impact zone (wading to waist deep). Additionally, as the tide receded going to low this is the perfect recipe for the most dangerous rip activity. For this reason there was no safe area for the general public to enjoy the ocean except for the pools of ocean water that became trapped on the beach (tide pools).

Tide pools are a result of the extreme high tides when large pockets of water are left pooling or trapped on the beach. Although the amount of water may vary from a few inches to a few feet deep and the size may be as small as a backyard pool or as large as several city blocks, most tide pools are only a few inches deep and less than a block long. Because of the relatively small quantity of water, the sun heats it and it is much warmer than the ocean and it usually has no wave action, making it very inviting. So even though the ocean was closed to swimmers for one day, many people came to the beach and found a tide pool that they could play in.

Surfers and experienced body boarders with swim fins were allowed in the ocean on that day because the equipment used for these sports gives flotation and the people who usually have this type of equipment are far more experienced. The extra flotation makes it safer for these individuals to enjoy their sport while providing additional assistance should a beach patron disregard the warnings of the beach patrol and find themselves being pulled away from the beach in a rip current. Typically surfers and body boarders have the experience and skills to keep themselves out of danger compared to the typical tourist who buys a boogie board at a sundry shop and has little to no knowledge of the ocean.

Note: At 7:15 p.m. on the day after the day in question (ocean closed to swimmers) three children who were allowed to go swimming with parents watching from the beach were suddenly pulled into deeper water and were unable to return to safety. Fortunately an alert surfer in the area recognized the developing situation and was able to paddle into the deadly rip current and place two of the struggling children on his board and assisted the third out of the rip current and eventually made their way back to the safety of the shore. Parents, please do not let your children go swimming in the ocean when guards are not on duty.



Keep your feet in the sand,  
until the lifeguard's in the stand!

