

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN REGARDING ALLIGATORS IN SEA PINES

Sea Pines founder Charles Fraser intended for residents, guests and visitors to live in and enjoy our exceptional Lowcountry environment. We consider nature one of our community's greatest amenities and work diligently to enhance and preserve the natural state and beauty of Sea Pines.

While our Lowcountry landscape and wildlife habitats are special to Sea Pines, there are very real dangers that accompany living with and among nature. Sea Pines is home to a variety of wildlife species such as alligators, birds, snakes, deer, coyotes and many, many other species.

We have provided information on our processes and several safety guidelines below regarding our alligator population.

Alligators in Sea Pines:

Sea Pines Community Service Associates (CSA) works directly with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) to regularly manage wildlife in our community in accordance with their requirements. The Sea Pines Security Department is available 24/7 to address wildlife sightings and concerns reported in the community by contacting our security dispatch line at 843.671.7170. Sea Pines CSA also employs a full-time wildlife officer and wildlife biologist to help maintain the delicate balance between humans and our Lowcountry environment. While each report of wildlife is handled on a case-by-case basis, Sea Pines takes wildlife concerns very seriously and works together with designated authorities as appropriate to handle each situation.

Sea Pines CSA works directly with SCDNR to assist in the management of the community's alligator population. Each year, CSA requests a depredation permit and tags from SCDNR for the removal of nuisance alligators from our community. If an alligator is deemed to be aggressive or nuisance the permit allows us to remove and euthanize that animal based on their behavior patterns. Additionally, South Carolina Law permits us to relocate non-aggressive alligators within Sea Pines.

Official SCDNR alligator warning signs are posted in high pedestrian traffic areas, near bodies of water adjacent to leisure trails and at the request of property owners. Information related to alligator safety is posted on our website at www.SeaPinesLiving.com and distributed through various community publications.

Safety precautions regarding alligators in our community:

- Alligators inhabit our area and they do live in Sea Pines, assume every body of water could contain an alligator.
- Stay vigilant and aware of your surroundings, if you must be near a body of water, use caution.
- Do not approach alligators, no matter how big or small.
- Be mindful of children and pets and make sure they stay away from lagoons and waterways.
- Never feed or harass an alligator.
- Swimming or wading in ponds and lagoons is prohibited.
- Use caution when fishing near any body of water. Do not throw fish scraps into any body of water.
- Do not attempt to move or capture an alligator.
- Feeding, harassing, or the unlawful killing or taking of alligators can result in substantial fines and/or jail time.

We need your assistance in remaining vigilant and alert about our surroundings. Be aware of your safety and the safety of others, if you see something, say something. To report an aggressive or nuisance alligator or to report any safety concerns regarding alligators, please immediately contact the Sea Pines Security Department Dispatch Phone Line at 843.671.7170.