

Seaweed Emergency Relocation Program

The Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston



GALVESTON

★ ISLAND ★

Park Board of Trustees

Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston Seaweed Emergency Relocation Program

The following informational packet will provide further details to those interested in registering with the Seaweed Emergency Relocation Program in Galveston, Texas. The purpose of the program is to relocate sargassum (seaweed) in times of Emergency Inundation only. Sargassum is a macroalgae that blooms in the Sargasso Sea and with the help of currents, makes its way around the world. An Emergency Inundation of sargassum is a very specified event and is further defined within. The Park Board of Trustees is able to relocate sargassum under defined measures through the federal permit which the Park Board holds. The Park Board follows specific requirements mandated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during Emergency Inundation events.

*When registering, only the last two pages of this packet need to be provided to the Park Board identified contact.

Table of Contents

Program Overview	pg. 1
Linear Footage and Hourly Rate	pg. 4
Checklist and Application	pg. 5

1

Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston
Seaweed Emergency Relocation Program
Overview



Park Board Responsibilities:

The Park Board routinely cleans and maintains the beaches on Galveston Island to the extent required by the Texas Natural Resources Code. The Park Board must provide a clean and safe beach which includes trash and debris removal. The activity of seaweed relocation is not part of that responsibility. The Park Board is also required to maintain the assets for which it is responsible for, and these areas will continue to be the highest priority for Park Board staff.

Definitions & Thresholds of Emergency Seaweed Events on Properties Not Directly Managed by the Park Board:

- **Landing:** Average height of accumulation is less than 2.5ft and ground coverage width less than 10ft.
 - Manual efforts should be used to clean up seaweed.
 - No Park Board assistance.

- **Emergency Inundation:** An accumulation that restricts public access to the water.
 - Average height of 2.5ft or higher and ground cover width of 10ft or more.
 - Or
 - Average height of 1.5ft or higher and ground cover width of 20ft or more
 - The landing must impact greater than 50% of the Home-Owner Association/ Property Owner Association linear footage.
 - Park Board will use mechanized equipment to relocate material.

Park Board Expectations During Emergency Seaweed Events:

- Equipment:
 - Park Board will relocate seaweed with mechanized equipment with appropriate and permitted devices. **This method reduces the height of the accumulation but does not completely remove the Sargassum from the beach. Per terms and conditions of federal permit some of the wrack must always remain.**
 - Equipment rental rates and bids will be pursued by the Park Board to ensure the lowest possible rates are procured in a timely manner.
 - The Surf Rakes are a limited asset and dedicated to Park Board managed properties, so their use is not being included in this program.

- Operations:
 - Environmental Coordinator will be the Point of Contact for the program.
All requests and communication should be in writing via email to the Environmental Coordinator.
(eschneider@galvestonparkboard.org)

Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston

Seaweed Emergency Relocation Program

- Keeping in mind that Park Board managed properties will always receive priority. If needed:
 - Relocation services will begin in early morning hours and go on through the day if beachgoer safety is not compromised.
 - Relocation services will start at the eastern most property participating in the program and proceed west. Once completed with western most property they will repeat the route.
 - Please note that depending on the level of inundation, there is no guarantee that all properties participating in the program will be serviced on the same day.
- All cleaning schedules are estimated and will depend greatly on the severity of landings.
- Placement of the relocated material is at the discretion of the Park Board and will only be dictated by the Chief Executive Officer or designee.
 - Park Board will strive to place all material at the toe of the dune to encourage the growth of the adjacent dune system.
 - Placement piles will be evenly distributed and used to fill in gaps to encourage a continuous dune system.
 - All placement will abide by our federal permit terms & conditions.
- Staffing:
 - Park Board will hire all Operators and Wildlife Monitors to ensure proper training has been completed.
- Fees
 - A \$250 administrative fee will be deducted from the initial retainer.
 - Enrollees will be billed hourly for time spent relocating seaweed in their designated area.
 - All accounts will be required to maintain a \$1,000 minimum balance.
 - If an area reaches this level the Park Board will notify the HOA/POA point of contact and request payment to bring the retainer back to its original amount. If no deposit is made within 10 business days of initial contact, the HOA/POA will be removed from the service rotation.
 - Park Board will refund all remaining retainer fees at the end of the year.

HOA/POA Expectations:

- Provide two Points of Contact to act as representatives for HOA/POA entering into an agreement.
 - All communications to the Park Board regarding the program will have to go through identified point of contact – Environmental Coordinator, Elizabeth Schneider.
- Obtain their own Beach Maintenance Permit from the City of Galveston to conduct beach maintenance
 - Park Board will provide language to include in the proposed beach cleaning activities.
- Provide retainer of \$5,000 or \$10,000, dependent upon linear footage, upon execution of the contract.
- Written Board resolution from HOA/POA authorizing official Points of Contact and contract execution authority.

Registration Process:

- Any HOA/POA will have the opportunity to participate during the registration period.
 - The registration period is generally March through May
 - The Park Board will communicate in writing annually the actual registration start and end dates
- Any HOA/POA that chooses not to register will not be allowed to enter later in the same year; no exceptions.

Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston
Seaweed Emergency Relocation Program

- All required documents and fees must be provided at the time of execution of the contract; no exceptions.
- Registration and official enrollment is not considered complete until all retainers, documents, applications, and fully executed agreements are received by the Park Board. If any items are missing, the HOA/POA is not fully enrolled and would not be serviced via this program until such time all items are in good standing and received.
- Only the Checklist and Application from this packet need to be filled out returned for the registration process.

**Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston
Seaweed Emergency Relocation Program**

		Contract Linear Footage	Retainer	# of hours at start of program *
1	Galvestonian	406	\$5,000	27
2	Riviera 1,2 & West Beach Grand	425	\$5,000	27
3	Acapulco	520	\$5,000	27
4	Palisades	800	\$5,000	27
5	Texas Campgrounds	820	\$5,000	27
6	Gulf Palms	1000	\$5,000	27
7	Palm Beach	1110	\$5,000	27
8	Kahala Beach	1150	\$5,000	27
9	Pirates Beach West	1290	\$5,000	27
10	Sands of Kahala	1385	\$5,000	27
11	Pointe San Luis Playa & Laguna	1480	\$5,000	27
12	Miramar	1575	\$5,000	27
13	Spanish Grant Civic Association	1710	\$5,000	27
14	Beach Town	1800	\$5,000	27
15	Kahala Estates	1850	\$5,000	27
16	Terramar	2850	\$5,000	27
17	The Dunes of West Beach	3000	\$10,000	62
18	Bermuda	3035	\$10,000	62
19	Beachside Village	3108	\$10,000	62
20	Sand Hill Shores	3830	\$10,000	62
21	Indian Beach	4050	\$10,000	62
22	Pirates Beach	5366	\$10,000	62
23	Pointe West	6870	\$10,000	62
24	Sea Isle	8570	\$10,000	62
Total		58,000	\$160,000	

Seaweed Relocation Rate **

Hourly

Wheel Loader	\$46.45
UTV/ATV	\$15.00
Operator	\$33.45
Wildlife Monitor	\$25.00

Total \$119.90

Admin Fee (20%) \$23.98

\$143.88 per hour

* Estimated hours available are based on retainer amount minus a \$1,000 minimum balance req.

** Rates are based on federal and state reimbursement rates for reporting & claims

**PARK BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
SEAWEED EMERGENCY RELOCATION PROGRAM**



Checklist and Application

Please initial each item below to ensure each has been completed and included.

- A completed application, on the form provided.
- A map showing geographic area with GPS (lat/long) coordinates.
- Resolution from Board in Agreement showing:
 - Willingness to comply and accept all guidelines established by Seaweed Emergency Relocation Program
 - Identifying person with authority to execute the agreement
 - Private property concerns regarding the placement of seaweed should be identified during the registration process
- Provide a copy of a valid Beach Maintenance permit to conduct beach maintenance activities from the City of Galveston. If the permit expires mid-season a new permit will need to be provided before the expiration of the existing permit.
- Required retainer payment of \$5,000 or \$10,000 in the form of a check written out to: Park Board of Trustees, as outlined in program overview sheet. A \$250 administrative fee will be deducted from the initial retainer. If in the event no services are required to be deployed all remaining balances will be refunded at the end of the year.

Please submit the completed registration application packet to:

Elizabeth Schneider, Environmental Coordinator
eschneider@galvestonparkboard.org

Please mail the retainer check to:

Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston Administrative Offices
601 Tremont Street, Suite 200 Galveston, Texas 77550

**PARK BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
SEAWEED EMERGENCY RELOCATION PROGRAM**

1. Please complete as indicated:

HOA/POA Name	Authorized Representative	Email	Phone

2. Address where official correspondence is to be mailed:

3. Two Points of Contact to act as representatives for the Community:

NOTE – Community understands and agrees that all communications with the Park Board must be done through their identified Point of Contact. If the Point of Contact changes, the Community must notify the Park Board in writing of the change.

Name	Street Address	Phone Number	Email

4. Please provide the specific location (including eastern and western limit GPS coordinates) for the geographic area you are serviced for. (Please print clearly & Provide a Map)

Western Service Area Boundary GPS (lat/long): _____

Eastern Service Area Boundary GPS (lat/long): _____

Measured Length of Service Area Beach Frontage (In Linear Feet): _____

5. Date of expiration of City of Galveston Beach Maintenance Permit: _____
