



Nice Matters!

Town of Emerald Isle
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Mayor
Eddie Barber

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Floyd Messer, Jr.

Board of Commissioners
Candace Dooley
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Jim Normile
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Interim Town Manager
Randy Martin
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Resolution Declaring April as Litter-Free Month

Whereas, residents of Emerald Isle and Carteret County, NC are offended by the amount of trash and litter on the sides of the roadways, in the ditches, and in the waters that surround our Town, and County; and

Whereas, the composition of trash and litter predominately consists of plastics, and these plastics have a particularly harmful impact on marine life, including marine mammals, fish, shellfish; and

Whereas, according to National Geographic, these plastics account for 8% of the total oil production and is expected to increase to 20% by 2050; with approximately 18 billion pounds of plastic waste flowing into the oceans every year from coastal regions; that's the equivalent of five grocery bags of plastic trash sitting on every foot of coastline around the world; and

Whereas, Emerald Isle and Carteret County, NC have historically relied on its commercial and recreational fishing industry and this industry is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of litter and trash in our waters; and

Whereas, Emerald Isle and Carteret County, NC also rely on tourism, second-home property owners, and rental properties for a significant amount of its tax and employment base; and

Whereas, the National Association of Homebuilders has determined that the presence of litter tends to reduce the value of property in that neighborhood by 7.4%; and

Whereas, littering destroys the beauty of our landscape, endangers the lives of birds and sea life, and can also be a traffic hazard; and

Whereas, Earth Day is April 22nd and is now an annual global event with approximately more than 1 billion people in 192 countries taking part in what is the largest civic-focused day of action in the world;

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Emerald Isle Board of Commissioners hereby:

- Declare April as **Litter-Free Emerald Isle Month** in order to raise awareness of the issue of litter, to encourage all residents and visitors to engage in litter reduction and prevention efforts during that month, and to affirm each year, our commitment to addressing this significant problem in our Town and County;
- Endorse development of a systematic and balanced three-prong approach of **Education** of the problem of littering; strict **Enforcement** of existing litter laws; and **Recovery** of the litter that engulfs our environment; and

- Request that enforcement of litter laws and consequent convictions be strengthened throughout the year beginning immediately.

Adopted this the ___ day of _____, 2019.

Eddie Barber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rhonda C. Ferebee, Town Clerk. CMC, NCCMC