

IMPORTANT VISITOR INFORMATION

The Kure Beach Lifeguard Squad protects designated areas of the beach. The Lifeguard Zone is between Alabama Avenue and Stormy Petrel.

Lifeguard Hours:
10 am to 5 pm, Daily

Memorial Day weekend thru Labor Day weekend

Every day, lifeguards fly a designated flag on each guard tower, depending on water conditions. For your safety, we urge you to **PLEASE** pay attention to the posted flag color.

Green	CALM CONDITIONS
Yellow	<u>Possible Rip Currents</u> USE CAUTION
Red	<u>High Rip Currents</u> USE EXTREME CAUTION
Black	NO Lifeguards on Duty

Rip current rescues account for 75% of all water rescues. Please educate yourself and your family on Rip Currents. The National Weather Service broadcasts rip current threat information daily in the Recreational Beach Forecast at http://www.erh.noaa.gov/ilm/beach/rip_risk.shtml. Watch local weather and news on WECT (Channel 6) and WWAY (Channel 3) for detailed weather information.

USLA's TOP TEN (SAFETY) TIPS

1. Swim near a lifeguard
2. Learn to swim
3. Never swim alone
4. Don't fight the current
5. Swim sober
6. Leash your board
7. Don't float where you can't swim
8. Life jackets = Boating safety
9. Don't dive head first and protect your neck
10. At home, you're the lifeguard



Handicap Accessible Beach Ramps are located on E Avenue, L Avenue and Atlantic Avenue.

A Beach Wheelchair is available from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Find a Kure Beach lifeguard or call the Kure Beach Police Department at 910-458-7586 to reserve it.

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LOCAL RULES & REGULATIONS STRICTLY ENFORCED

- **Dogs** are not allowed on the beach from April 1 through September 30.
- **Leash Law:** All dogs are required to be on a leash or restraint with lead line not to exceed 15' in length.
- **Pet Waste:** Section 4-16-1 requires all dog owners to clean up after their pets. The ordinance also requires that a "means of disposal" be carried by any person walking a dog.
- **Alcohol is prohibited** on the beach strand at all times and in public elsewhere throughout the town.
- **Trespassing** on sand dune areas is prohibited. Generally, any area with sea grass growing is a protected dune.
- **No swimming or surfing** within 250 yards of either side of the Kure Beach Fishing Pier. Dangerous conditions exist.
- **Fires and grills** are prohibited on the beach strand.
- **Beach equipment** (volleyball nets, chairs, cabanas, fishing gear, etc.) is not allowed to be left on the beach between the hours of 7pm and 8am. It will be removed and disposed of by the town.
- **No tents, chairs,** etc., allowed within 15-feet of dune line.
- **Vehicles** on the beach strand are prohibited.
- **Littering** or carrying glass bottles onto beach is prohibited. Trash receptacles are located at each public beach access.
- **Digging ANY size hole on the beach is dangerous.** Do NOT leave holes unattended and fill them in prior to leaving the beach.

Ordinances are strictly enforced through civil and criminal proceedings.

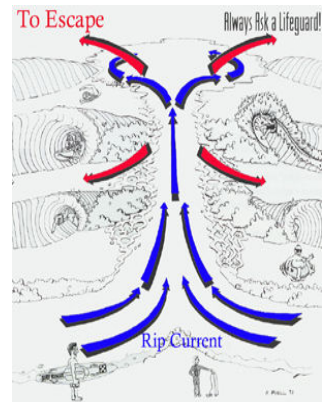
POLICE OFFICERS PATROL THE BEACH STRAND DAILY!

What is a Rip Current?

Often mistakenly called undertows, these powerful currents pull even experienced swimmers away from shore. Panic and drowning often result. The currents are formed when water rushes out to sea in a narrow path. Some rip currents stay active for a few hours and others are permanent. Rip currents are more prevalent before and after storms.

Telltale Signs of Rip Currents

- a difference in water color
- a difference in the waves
- larger, choppy waves in the rip current
- smaller calmer waves in front of the sandbar
- foam or objects moving steadily seaward
- An offshore plume of turbid water past the sandbars



What to Do

If you feel that you are caught in a rip current, **DO NOT PANIC** or swim against the current. Swim parallel to shore until you are out of the current. Rip currents are rarely more than 30-feet wide. If you can't break out of the current, float calmly until it dissipates, usually just beyond the breakers. Then, swim diagonally to shore. If you don't swim well, stay in wading depths and watch for sudden drop-offs.

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