# Beach Safety

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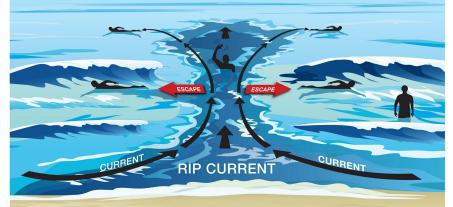
# BEACH SAFE KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

The Beauty of the Beach

# The Beast That Comes With It

We want to be able to reach all our visitors

## **RIP CURRENTS** Know your options



Rip currents are powerful currents of water moving away from shore. They can sweep even the strongest swimmer away from shore. If at all possible, swim near a lifeguard.

## **IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT**

- Relax, rip currents don't pull you under.
- Don't swim against the current.
- Swim out of the current, then to shore.
- ♦ If you can't escape, float or tread water.
- ♦ If you need help, yell or wave for assistance.

## SAFETY

- ♦ Know how to swim.
- Never swim alone.
- ♦ If in doubt, don't go out.
- Swim near a lifeguard.

More information about rip currents can be found at the following websites:

weather.gov/safety/ripcurrent/ usla.org



# What is BEach Safe?

 Beach safe is a collaborative effort between communities' and the CVB to design and promote a campaign to educate the public about beach issues.

## Avenues to receive Beach Safety info



## Daily Beach Report:

Gulf Shores- 251-968-SURF

Orange Beach- 251-981-SURF

Radio Beach Report: Sunny 105.7

- Social Media
- Coloring Books
- Flying Banners
- Surveys





Flag Status > Red Flag, High Hazard & Strong Rip Currents. For details https://gsob.co/ 3hvBOV4. nixle.us/E7EJ7 Friday 08:38 **ALERTBALDWIN: Today's Beach Flags are Yellow** Flag, Moderate Surf & Currents. For details https://gsob.co/3hvBOV4. nixle.us/E7GYP Saturday 08:45 **ALERTBALDWIN: Today's Beach Flags are Yellow** Flag, Moderate Surf & Currents. For details https://gsob.co/3hvBOV4. nixle.us/E7JR7 ሳ 0. (A) Text Message

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# Insights

After conducting surveys, research suggests that 42% of visitors are not certain how to recognize rip currents or how to escape them (21%).

Only 12% could identify flags or rip currents & knew how to escape rip currents First time beach goers are most vulnerable. These visitors are the least aware of rip currents (19%) and beach safety flags (14%)

Prioritizing the beaches along Gulf Shores and Orange Beach- where first-time visitors represent roughly 4 in 10- with more lifeguards, signage and easily visible beach safety flags could aid in the safety of visitors. Roughly 9/10 visitors said they were likely or very likely to enter the water. Visitors traveling with children were slightly more likely. Keeping visitors safe and informed is essential to the longevity and health of the destination.

Reports show only 12% received information from condos/hotels

# Our visitors need your help

Goals:

- Update Condo Signage
- Signage in Elevators
- Video's in waiting rooms
- Packets to you with BEach Safe







#### **REQUEST THE FOLLOWING ON GSOBT'S PARTNER WEBSITE**

- Staff buttons, 2" x 2", pin back
- Key card holder inserts, 3.5" x 2"
- Static clings with QR code, 4" x 3"
- Refrigerator magnets, 4.5" x 3.25"
- Beach Safe brochures, 4" x 9", folded
- Posters, 12" x 18"
- Double red flag static clings, 8" x 12" For display only when double red flags are flying Apply to beach exit doors
- Double red flag sidewalk signs, 24" x 36" For display only when double red flags are flying

DOWNLOAD THE FOLLOWING FROM THE BEACH SAFE

- Campaign messaging
- QR codes

**ASSET PORTAL** 

- Rip current sign art
- Beach flag graphics
- Printable signs and posters
- Rip current video
- Social media graphics
- Suggested pre-arrival and confirmation email copy

## **REQUEST CUSTOMIZED ART FOR KID'S ACTIVITY SHEET**

Ashley Lutz ALutz@GulfShoresAL.gov · 251-968-4213



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### **QUESTIONS?**

Contact Kim Jones, Community Liaison KJones@AlabamaBeaches.com · 251-228-2629



