



We are in unfamiliar water as we navigate through the uncertainties of COVID-19. Topsail Beach has made necessary decisions that have help reduce the spread of COVID19. We do realize the impact these decisions have had on business; however, we are trying to save lives. Many of our full-time residents have chosen to self-quarantine or have limited exposure to others to support the need for social distancing. We have welcomed our non-resident homeowners back early and they are also supporting the social distance request. For this, I thank you all.

Now is a time when we need to come together to help our neighbor and support our community. We have short-term and long-term responsibilities as we deal with the impact of this virus. Currently my only short-term concern is the health of all in Topsail Beach. My longer-term focus is on the business recovery and the town being prepared for the upcoming Hurricane Season.

I ask that you join me with our short-term responsibilities. This is a great time to get to know your neighbor. Check in with them to see if they are able to meet their daily needs and offer to help where you can. Develop a phone-tree, text-tree or email-tree where all neighbors can contact each other daily. Use video chats (like Skype and Facetime) to “visit” with each other. On nice days, set up a driveway coffee hour, where you can meet with your neighbor outside to chat—**from a six-foot distance of course**. Each morning raise your American flag and your Topsail Beach flag. Be kind and patient. Make sure someone knows you care. But always practice **Social Distancing!**

We are all faced with the uncertainty of this virus but each of us can do our part to ease anxiety and stress just by reaching out to our neighbors. Please share this email in our community and if a person is not on our Town’s Sunshine Email List or telephone call list, please ask them to contact Town Hall (328-5841) to be added.

Thank you. Sincerely Steve Smith, Mayor, Town of Topsail Beach