## COUNTY OF NASSAU DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MUSEUMS EISENHOWER PARK - EAST MEADOW, NEW YORK 11554 www.nassaucountyny.gov/parks

## Welcome to Nickerson Beach 2021

Before you and your family come and enjoy all that Nickerson Beach has to offer, we ask that you please be aware of some guidelines and restrictions. Adherence to these will better the experience for you and your family, while protecting a very valuable ecosystem.

## Nickerson Beach is home to a variety of important beach nesting birds, all of which are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and/or the Endangered Species Act. The Piping Plover, a small sand colored shorebird, nests at Nickerson Beach and is listed as "endangered" in New York State, and "threatened" federally.

Nickerson is also home to other species, including the Black Skimmer, Least Tern, Common Tern, and American Oystercatcher. The wealth of diversity here is a shining spot on the south shore of Long Island. The effort of many helps protect these valuable species, and we hope you, too, will do your part by respecting the following rules:

• Disturbances to wildlife can come in many forms. Please avoid the following activities: Please do not approach or linger near nesting areas or roped off habitat. If you are too close, the birds will feel threatened. Feeding, chasing, and ball playing are also prohibited in and around nesting areas. Please be respectful of their space.

• Please practice "carry in, carry out" with ALL trash and food remains. Trash attracts predators, threatening nesting birds and their young. Trash receptacles are placed at every walkover.

• Kite flying, drones, and balloon releases are not permitted. These activities contribute to pollution and are a threat to nesting birds.

• Please keep off the dunes and stay on marked walkways at all times. Dunes protect our homes from storms and are home to many different native plant species that cannot survive in disturbed sand. Seabeach Amaranth is an endangered plant that grows in our dune system.

• <u>Dogs are not permitted on the beach or dunes at any time, in ALL seasons</u>. Dogs pose a significant threat to nesting birds with just their presence on the beach. Dogs are only permitted in the dog run area on the West side of the Main Lot.

• Permits are required for all group activities on the beach. This includes all Photo Shoots - Please contact the Park Manager at 516-571-7701 for permit information.

For Information on the Endangered Species Program, or to report injured wildlife - please call: Town of Hempstead Department of Conservation & Waterways - 516-431-9200.

For Emergencies, and enforcement, please contact: Town of Hempstead Bay Constables - 516-897-4100.

Thank you for your cooperation,

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Eileen Krieb Commissioner Department of Parks, Recreation & Museums