



NEWS RELEASE

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Folly Beach Pier media room for photos and video: www.ccprc.com/follypiermedia

New Folly Beach Pier to open Dec. 26

[FOLLY BEACH] – The Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission (CCPRC) will open the reconstructed Edwin S. Taylor Folly Beach Fishing Pier on Monday, Dec. 26.

The Folly Beach Pier closed to the public for a complete rebuilding project in October of 2020, which was expected to take about 28 months. The new pier was finished ahead of schedule and will open the day after Christmas of 2022.

“We are thrilled to be opening the new Folly Beach Pier just in time for the holidays,” said Kevin Bowie, executive director of the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission. “The Folly Beach Pier is a Lowcountry icon and we look forward to welcoming our community and visitors for generations to come.”

Highlights of the new Folly Beach Pier

- Concrete pilings and substructure, with wooden walkway and railings
- 1,049 feet in length
- Most of the pier is 25 feet wide
- Two locations of the pier were slightly widened and covered, at 33 feet wide, allowing additional space for fishing
- 22 feet above sea level
- Diamond Head platform at the end of the pier is 7,500 square feet in size
- 228 concrete pilings
- Shade structures and benches
- Wooden walkway panels designed to break away in the event of a large storm
- Unobstructed ocean views, more efficient pedestrian access and modern improvements
- Longer lifespan than wooden piers (expected to be 65+ years)



Pier operating hours are currently 8 a.m. to sunset (operating hours vary throughout the year). Amenities at the Folly Beach Pier include restrooms, the Pier 101 Restaurant and Bar, beach access, showers, and the Gangplank Gift & Tackle Shop (which, in addition to selling gifts, sundry items, refreshments and tackle/bait, offers rod rentals). The iconic Folly Beach Pier is the perfect location for saltwater fishing, walking, birding and breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean and the “Edge of America.” The pier’s special events are scheduled to return in 2023, including the popular fishing tournaments and Moonlight Mixer dance series. In addition, the Charleston County Parks Foundation will host a special fundraising event called Folly Pier Fest on March 11. The pier’s rectangular deck behind the Pier 101 restaurant, along with the gift shop and restrooms, reopened May 2021. For additional information on all that the Folly Beach Pier has to offer, visit www.ccprc.com/follypier.

The Folly Beach Pier’s parking lot will undergo renovations for a brief period in January 2023. During this time, the parking lot along with the pier, restrooms, gift shop, beach access, and Pier 101 restaurant will be closed. Please stay tuned to CharlestonCountyParks.com for details on the timeline for this closure.

The former Folly Beach Pier

The history of a pier at this location on Folly Beach goes back to the 1930s. The most recent Folly Beach Pier, owned by CCPRC, opened July 4, 1995. The pier was 25 feet wide and 1,047 feet long (roughly the length of three football fields), and featured 319 wooden pilings. The entirely wooden pier eventually began deteriorating, its pilings impacted by marine borers as well as wear and tear from the ocean environment. CCPRC began dive inspections of the pier pilings in 2013, and encapsulated many of the pilings in an effort to strengthen them, kill the marine borers, and maintain the integrity of the pier. Though the pier was maintained regularly to keep it safe for the public, pile deterioration is a continuous process that cannot be stopped. Wooden timber pile piers typically have an average life expectancy of 20-25 years. The former Folly Beach Pier closed to the public on Oct. 19, 2020.

For more information on the Folly Beach Pier or Charleston County Parks, visit CharlestonCountyParks.com.

Owned and operated by the Charleston County Park & Recreation Commission (CCPRC), the Folly Beach Pier is located at 101 East Arctic Avenue on Folly Beach. The mission of CCPRC is to improve the quality of life in Charleston County by offering a diverse system of park facilities, programs and services. The large park system features over 11,000 acres of property and includes six regional parks, three beach parks, three dog parks, two landmark fishing piers, three waterparks, a historic plantation site, a skate park, 19 boat landings, a climbing wall, a challenge course, an interpretive center, an equestrian center, cottages, a campground, a marina, as well as wedding, meeting and event facilities. CCPRC also offers a wide variety of recreational services – festivals, camps, classes, programs and much more. For more information on CCPRC, call 843-795-4386 or visit www.charlestoncountyparks.com.

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Visit the Folly Pier Media Room at www.ccprc.com/follypiermedia for high resolution photos and video of the pier!

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