2018-2023 Ocracoke Re-entry Permitting Process

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Will the 2018-2023 Ocracoke re-entry permits differ from those issued in the past?

No, the same permits will be used during the 2018-2023 application/renewal process.

If you have retained your 2014-2018 Ocracoke re-entry permit, Hyde County Emergency Services will issue a sticker displaying the new expiration date (the sticker will be placed over the previous expiration date). If your 2018-2023 Ocracoke re-entry permit has been lost or discarded, you will be issued a new hanging tag.

Did Hyde County Emergency Services retain my application submitted during 2018-2023 Ocracoke re-entry application/renewal process?

No, but personal identifying information was collected during issuance of the permits and compiled into a database.

How long will the permits be valid for?

The 2018-2023 Ocracoke re-entry permits will be valid through December 31, 2023.

Is there any cost for a re-entry permit?

No, there is no cost for the pass or fees assessed for processing your application.

Applicants that complete an online application will be required to submit a self-addressed and stamped envelope with their application submission. These applications will be processed and returned once a month.

How many people can be on one permit or how many permits can a person have?
The number of permits issued will be contingent upon the number of licensed drivers associated with the property or living at the residence and the number of registered vehicles owned by the applicant/applicants.

Businesses and agencies applying for/renewing permits will receive stickers or hang tags based on the number of employees and vendors they deem essential to restoring operations.

**I am a year-round renter, how do I obtain a re-entry permit?**

A year-round renter would be eligible for a resident re-entry permit, if they can produce the necessary documentation. The year-round renter would need to provide the following:

- A copy of their rental agreement or a letter from their landlord stating that they reside on the island for at least half the year.
- A copy of their North Carolina Driver’s License or a valid identification card displaying Ocracoke as their primary residence.

**Is there a permit for seasonal workers?**

There are no special permits for seasonal workers. The re-entry level of a seasonal worker’s permit would be contingent upon several factors and they are:

- The seasonal worker would be issued an emergency personnel permit if the volunteer fire department or another public safety agency applies on their behalf.
- The seasonal worker would be issued an infrastructure permit if the worker’s employer applies on their behalf because they have been deemed essential to the restoration of operations.
- The seasonal worker would be provided a resident permit if they can produce proof of property ownership and residency. Granting of this pass would require that the applicant reside on the island at least half the year.
- The seasonal worker would be provided a non-resident property owner permit if they could provide proof of property ownership. This permit does not require proof of residency.
- No permit would be issued if the seasonal worker fails to meet any of the criteria listed above.

**Do business owners receive special permits?**

The following business classes and their vendors receive infrastructure permits:

- Power Companies
- Water Department Employees
- Food Services
- Park Service General Staff Members
- Gas Companies

**I missed out on being issued a permit in person, what should I do?**

Individuals can apply for a re-entry permit by visiting the Hyde County website at:

I lost my permit, can you retrieve my information or will my driver’s license suffice?

Yes, your information can be retrieved. During the issuance of permits, personal identifying information is compiled into a database and can be accessed by personnel at the Hyde County Emergency Operations Center and the NCDOT Ferry Division docks during a declared re-entry for Ocracoke.

Does my permit really affect how quickly I can return to the island?

Yes, re-entry levels are prioritized as follows:

1.) Red – Emergency Personnel
2.) Yellow – Infrastructure
3.) Green – Residents
4.) White – Non-resident Property Owners
5.) Non-residents/Tourists

The re-entry periods for each priority level will be determined by the Hyde County Emergency Services Department and the NCDOT Ferry Division.

I live/own property in Mainland Hyde County, do we have re-entry permits?

No, currently there are no adopted re-entry procedures for Mainland Hyde County