



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Memorial Day Weekend in the City of North Myrtle Beach**

*North Myrtle Beach, SC – May 22, 2018* – Memorial Day Weekend kicks off our main visitor season. We quickly begin to grow from a city with a permanent population of about 15,000 people to one with a daily population of 100,000-plus.

Over the Memorial Day Weekend, North Myrtle Beach is also impacted by the annual Atlantic Beach Memorial Day Black Pearl Cultural Heritage & Bike Festival held in the adjacent Town of Atlantic Beach. Many event participants stay with us and enjoy our city. This means that a large number of motorcycles are added to the vehicle traffic already on our roads. This presents safety challenges for motorists and for motorcyclists. Whether driving a car or riding a motorcycle, everyone should exercise caution and extend courtesy. Continually check to the rear and sides as you progress down the road. The vacant space that you saw when you last checked could now be filled by a car or a motorcycle.



Everyone will notice the increased presence of public safety officers in North Myrtle Beach during Memorial Day Weekend. This includes officers from other jurisdictions in South Carolina, and the South Carolina Highway Patrol. They are here for the benefit of all residents and visitors, and their key focus in North Myrtle Beach is traffic management and safety. We want to keep traffic flowing so that gridlock does not occur. When traffic gridlock occurs, frustrations build and people anger more easily.

While law enforcement works to keep traffic moving, everyone must practice patience. If it normally takes someone 10 minutes to get to an attraction, restaurant or other destination, expect it to take longer over Memorial Day Weekend. Plan ahead and you won't be disappointed.

### **EXCESSIVE NOISE**

Excessive noise is a key complaint during major holiday weekends.

The City's Noise Ordinance States: "It is unlawful for any person to make, continue or cause to be continued any excessive, unnecessary or unusually loud noise or any noise which either annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of others, within the limits of the city."

Those who violate the noise ordinance can be cited and/or or arrested with a fine up to \$1,000.

Please be considerate of others.

### **COMMON MOTORCYCLE VIOLATIONS**

At the same time we encourage motorists to watch out for motorcycles on our roads, we encourage motorcyclists to avoid doing the following things, which are illegal and can endanger others on the road:

- Speeding
- Burnouts
- Weaving between cars
- "Holding" intersections to allow a group to continue without having to stop for a red light or stop sign.

Those who do these things are subject to a citation and/or arrest with a fine up to \$1,000.

Again, exercise good judgment and respect others.

### **PREVENT MOTORCYCLE THEFT**

Each year during Memorial Day Weekend, motorcycles are stolen. Expensive, custom and show bikes are popular with thieves. Here are some theft prevention tips:

- Avoid parking motorcycles in poorly lit areas.
- Don't leave leathers, cameras, GPS, helmets, etc, on your bike.
- Lock your motorcycle. Thieves can easily overcome factory-installed ignition locks, so use high-quality disk locks, wheel locks, and heavy-duty cable or chain locks.

### **WE PRACTICE "COMMUNITY POLICING"**

Our law enforcement personnel practice "community policing", which means they try to be accessible and available to interact with residents and visitors. Their goal is to establish mutual trust and respect. When that occurs, good things follow.

They try first to educate people about our laws. If that approach does not work, they may choose to issue warnings. If those approaches fail, they will cite or arrest.

Of course, if flagrant and/or serious violations of law occur, law enforcement will react quickly and decisively.

Visitor or resident, if you have questions about what you can and cannot do in North Myrtle Beach, feel free to approach any of our law enforcement personnel. They are there to help all have a safe and enjoyable time.

### **PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY**

- Grilling: In previous years, there have been some unfortunate incidents caused by improper grilling. Do not operate charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices on balconies or within 10 feet of

combustible construction. Do not cook under tents unless the tent exhibits an affixed NFPA 701 flame-resistance rating. Tents and membrane structures in excess of 400 square feet require a permit.

-- Sky lanterns are prohibited.

-- Fireworks: Possession and use of fireworks are prohibited.

### **USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

-- Non-Emergencies: call (843) 280-5511

-- Emergencies: call 911

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