



**For immediate release
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DCR CREATES TRUST FUND AT NANTASKET BEACH FOR PUBLIC SAFETY, PRESERVATION, AND MAINTENANCE

Parking surcharge will reimburse town of Hull for services at the beach

At the direction of the state Legislature, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is establishing the Nantasket Beach Preservation Trust Fund to help reimburse the town of Hull for public safety, preservation, and maintenance services at Nantasket Beach.

Starting August 1, 2009, DCR will collect a surcharge on parking fees at the beach. The additional money collected from the surcharge will be deposited directly into the trust fund. The surcharge will be \$4 per car for non-seniors and \$2 per car for seniors, bringing the total parking cost to \$7 for non-seniors and \$4 for seniors. Parking at the beach is currently \$3 for non-seniors and \$2 for seniors.

“Nantasket Beach is one of our busiest beaches,” said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. “The need to provide emergency services is significant. DCR worked closely with the Legislature and Hull officials to provide this new funding mechanism.”

State Rep. Garrett Bradley, whose district includes the town of Hull, feels establishing the trust fund is important to help reimburse the town for emergency police, fire, and ambulance services provided at the beach.

“With our current budget problems resulting in local aid cuts, the town of Hull no longer could bear the costs of sending emergency personnel to the reservation,” said Representative Bradley. “This surcharge, I believe, is a reasonable way to fund those emergency services and provide a safe and well maintained beach for all to enjoy.”

Under the rules of the trust established by the Legislature, expenditures from the trust will be made first to the town of Hull’s police, fire, and ambulance departments. Each year, by November 30, DCR will meet with Hull selectmen to discuss the safety and maintenance plans for the next calendar year, as well as the balance and expenditures from the trust fund.

“The town wishes to thank Commissioner Sullivan and Representative Bradley for their leadership in establishing the trust,” said Phil Lemnios, Hull town manager. “The trust will

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help provide a safer environment at Nantasket Beach and will improve the beach for years to come."

A similar trust exists at DCR's Salisbury Beach State Reservation, where the Legislature established the Salisbury Beach Preservation Trust at the start of the 2009 season. Funded with a \$2 surcharge on parking and camping at the reservation, the trust will help finance the long-term preservation and maintenance of the reservation. The trust will also support operations at the beach, such as dune plantings, public access improvements, signage updates, wildlife management, and protection of rare species.

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The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.