

Navarre Beach Rescue Tube Project

Navarre Beach, like many coastal areas, has a shortage of life guard stations and life guards. Budgetary constraints leave most of Navarre Beach unguarded. Increased visitor counts to Navarre Beach over the last 18 months have put an even greater burden on our limited resources and with the addition of a 160 room hotel on Navarre Beach beginning in 2016, it is expected that visitor count to increase even further.

Proposed: The Rotary Club of Navarre, in cooperation with Santa Rosa County, is proposing to install twelve (12) rescue tube stations along Navarre Beach, west of the fishing pier, at each public access point.

The expense to build, install, maintain and replenish the rescue tube stations would be guaranteed by the Rotary Club of Navarre. The club would raise funds from individuals and businesses through donations and sponsorship to offset costs, but is financially capable of funding the project on its own. The club is prepared to make a long term commitment to this project. ***The club also has the Rotary International general liability policy and we can name additional insured parties, up to \$2million.***

Based on initial research, we anticipate the cost of each rescue tube station to be \$125-\$150. Additional funds will be set aside for replacement of lost/damaged equipment and replacement for wear and tear.

In addition to funding the rescue tube stations, the Rotary Club of Navarre plans to work with the Tourism Board and Emergency Services to build a website with educational information about the tubes including a map, written instructions and an instructional video. The video will be displayed on the rescue tube website and may also be displayed on other tourist related sites ran by the county and Navarre Beach businesses.

The Need for Rescue Tubes: Since 2010, 6 people have drowned on Navarre Beach in the unguarded area that would be covered by these proposed rescue tube stations. In two instances, the victim of drowning was attempting to rescue a swimmer in distress.

Rescue tubes have shown to be effective in helping both swimmers in distress and the Samaritan attempting to assist them in reaching the beach safely.

So far in 2015, according to statistics provided to the Club, there have been 80 rescues on Navarre Beach by Navarre Beach Lifeguards. 36 of those rescues have occurred in the area covered by our proposed rescue tubes stations.

Please contact Navarre Rotary Club Secretary Bryan Boney @ bboney30@gmail.com for more information.

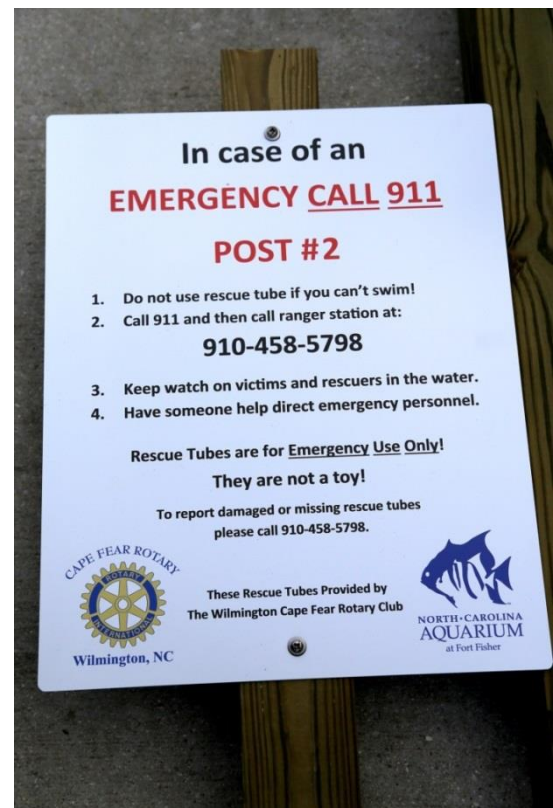
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The Rescue Tube Stations: These stations are comprised of a post sunk into the sand near each public access point with signage that explains what to do in case of accident and a rescue tube mounted with a Velcro strap that allows for quick access in case of a water emergency.

- Rescue tubes are on station 24/7/365 and easy to use and provide a safer way for a Samaritan to assist a swimmer in distress.
- Rescue tubes allow for immediate response to a swimmer in distress.
- Each rescue tube station would be numbered and mapped in the 911 emergency systems to better guide emergency responders to the correct beach access for all types of emergencies.
- The rescue tubes are easy to install and maintain and have low installation and maintenance costs.
- The rescue tubes will typically last 2-3 years and then need replacing. And Hawaii has seen a low instance of loss (less than 20%) with their installed tubes.

This is an example of rescue tube station to be installed on Navarre Beach. The station is comprised of a 12 foot pressure treated 4x4 post that is sunk 4 foot into the sand at each public access point.

Each station would have a numbered sign with emergency instructions and a phone number for reporting lost tubes along with sponsor information and the rescue tube.



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Rescue Tube Bi-Lingual Instruction Graphics

Instructions silk screened on front of rescue tube.

Graphic for side of tube.



Si no sabe nadar,
No utilice este dispositivo,
No entre al agua



Grite pidiendo ayuda
y llame al 911



Jale el tubo de rescate
atrás de usted
Use aletas si es posible



Patalee diagonalmente
hacia la costa,
No contra la corriente

rescuetubefoundation.org



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Success Stories & Additional References

Hawaii – The Rescue Tube Foundation (www.rescuetubefoundation.org)

- Since 2009, have installed over 300 rescue tube stations on Kauai's beaches and have dozens of confirmed rescues. Their website includes a history, articles and updates and the instructional video that shows at the airport as you are entering the state that explains what the rescue tubes are and shows how to use them. We intend on creating a similar video for our visitors.

Custer South Dakota (<http://www.custerrotary.org/Stories>)

- The Rotary Club of Custer, SD has installed 5 rescue tubes at the beach in Custer State Park and 3 at the local swimming pool.

Fort Fisher Rec Area in North Carolina (<http://www.capefearrotary.com/>)

- The Rotary Club of Cape Fear, in coordination with the State of NC and the North Carolina Aquarium installed 10 rescue tubes along a 5 mile stretch of beach prior in early 2014.

Emerald Isle Parks and Recreation, NC (<http://www.jdnews.com/article/20130630/News/306309948>)

- Installed 13 rescue tubes in 2012 and have recorded saved lives with the rescue tubes.

About the Rotary Club of Navarre

- The Rotary Club of Navarre is a 503c4 corporation and was founded in 1995.
- We are comprised of local professionals and community leaders committed to improving our community through service to others.
- We have funded tens of thousands of dollars in Navarre High School scholarships over the last ten years.
- Our other service projects include providing additional nutrition for displaced/homeless Navarre students, supporting multiple local organizations with financial assistance and volunteer hours.