



Fall 2022 Newsletter

Dear IBA Supporters. As a reminder, our mission is to identify, enhance, and preserve public and private beach access on Whidbey. We welcome your continued support!

Here's a brief summary of what we have done since our last report:

ACCESS MATS ON ROBINSON BEACH PARK. *PROJECT COMPLETED!*

After 7 long years of delays due to COVID and very extensive permitting process, we have made Robinson Beach more accessible! We installed two van-sized ADA-approved parking spaces adjacent to the park and we placed seasonal mats from there to the high tide line.

This \$15,000+ project required 7 different permits and would not have been successful without support from Rotary Club of Whidbey Westside, Island Asphalt, many volunteers, **and** financial support from many of you. The mats are seasonal and are now stored for the winter months. We will reinstall them at both the Robinson and Clinton beaches in May.



A recent excellent S Whidbey Record article (10/29/22; <https://www.southwhidbeyrecord.com/news/beach-group-rolls-out-the-welcome-mats/>). describes our journey.



CLINTON BEACH UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT (adjacent to the ferry)

Sadly, this beach has not yet recovered from the havoc caused by past winter's storms that blocked the Access mat pathway to the shore. Check out these **Then** and **Now** pictures:

WHAT WE HAVE DONE:



We continue to work with the Port of S. Whidbey to resolve the problem, but progress is agonizingly slow. They have submitted permit applications NOAA, the Army Corps of Engineers, WSF(DOT), and DNR to allow removal of these logs.

*In the meantime, we continue to lay down mats in the spring and remove them during winter months, providing at least some access.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- We are collaborating with Whidbey Audubon and WA State Parks to rebuild the Crockett Lake bird viewing platform as ADA approved.
- We have consulted with the Oak Harbor Park Dept. to assist them in with making Windjammer Park ADA accessible.
- We seek YOUR input on new beach access projects. Let us hear from you!
email: (info@islandbeachaccess.org)

WHAT'S NEEDED: We need your financial support to replenish the funds we expended for Access Mats and to help us build reserves for our next project.

- **Please contribute what you can to further our Mission** to

ISLAND BEACH ACCESS, PO BOX 197, LANGLEY WA, 98260

Note: IBA is now a 501(c)(3) qualified charity. All donations are tax deductible. Previously IBA relied on Whidbey Island Land and Shore Trust (WILST) to receive such donations on its behalf. To avoid any confusion, any donations intended for IBA should now be directed to "Island Beach Access.

If, for any reason, you wish to be removed from our email list please let us know that too!.