

Jekyll Island

G E O R G I A ' S J E W E L



For Immediate Release

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Jekyll Island Announces Simplified Parking Fee Schedule

Jekyll Island, Ga. (Aug. 2, 2006) - Beginning Friday, Aug. 4, Jekyll Island will modify its Parking Fee program to offer guests greater flexibility in accessing the many public amenities on the state-owned island. The base fee of \$3 per vehicle will remain the same, but will become a daily fee as opposed to a per-entry fee. The Annual Pass program will remain the same at \$35.

"The daily fee model will give guests the convenience of coming and going as they please, without having to pay each time they come on the island," stated Bill Donohue, Executive Director of the Jekyll Island Authority. "This probably impacts local guests the most - the folks coming and dropping kids off at tennis camp or the water park and returning later to pick them up."

The Jekyll Island Authority receives no regular funding from state or county tax revenue and relies on the Parking Fee to fund capital improvement projects in the public use areas. Current projects funded by the Parking Fee include a new pavilion at Clam Creek picnic area, new beach crossover at Thorne Avenue, public restrooms at the public boat ramp and expanded restroom facilities at St. Andrews picnic area. Past projects also include the oceanside playground and picnic deck by the mini-golf, bike path improvements and the Jekyll Island Causeway entrance at the intersection of U.S. Highway 17.

The change in structure recognizes the increase in the number of guests traveling on and off the island each day. Previously, guests returning to the island were charged a \$1 re-entry fee, causing them to be charged \$4 in fees for that particular day. The re-entry fee is now eliminated. The new \$3 daily Parking Fee expires at midnight.

"In addition to day trips to sites like the Okefenokee Swamp, overnight guests to Jekyll Island also take advantage of the new restaurant options in Brunswick and St. Simons, the shopping at Colonial Mall and the Emerald Princess cruise ship at the foot of the Sidney Lanier bridge. Our Golf Passport program also invites golfers to try area golf courses," stated Eric Garvey, Jekyll Island Authority Senior Director of Marketing. "Eliminating the re-entry fee will make these amenities much more convenient for our on-island guests."

"In today's world, the \$3 parking fee may be the best bargain going," added Garvey. "From the four main picnic areas, to the 20 plus miles of bike paths to the 16 public beach access points, guests on Jekyll Island get a lot for their three dollars."

For regular guests to the island, an Annual Pass of \$35 makes access to Jekyll Island even more convenient. The bar code decal is sold per vehicle, and allows the guest to enter onto the island

through the decal scanner lane without stopping. The \$35 Annual Decal is valid for a full 12 months from the date of purchase.

About Jekyll Island

Jekyll Island is a barrier island on Georgia's coast – midway between Jacksonville, Fla.; and Savannah, Ga. Accessible by car just minutes from I-95, Jekyll Island offers a variety of amenities, including 10 miles of beach, four golf courses, a 250-acre Historic Landmark District, water park, tennis center, an array of lodging options including hotels, cottages and campgrounds. Owned by the State of Georgia, and managed by the Jekyll Island State Park Authority, Jekyll Island has had development limited to just 35 percent of its available land area. This unique aspect of Jekyll Island serves to preserve the critical barrier island ecosystem, as well as provides guests with a unique escape from the crowds and complications of other beach resort destinations. Please visit www.jekyllisland.com for more information or call 1-877-4JEKYLL.

About the Jekyll Island Foundation

The Jekyll Island Foundation is a tax exempt, public, non-profit that offers participatory opportunities in planned giving, private donation, legislative education, corporate support, and philanthropic foundation support. The Foundation serves to raise, receive, manage and disburse funds for the stewardship of the historic and natural resources of Jekyll Island. This stewardship includes preservation and improvement of historic sites, conservation of the undeveloped portion of the island and development and improvement of amenities for visitors to the island. The Jekyll Island Foundation's current project is a major capital campaign to help fund the construction of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. Activities include the Georgia Sea Turtle Center "Walkway to Wonder" program, where personalized bricks can be purchased for \$50 and placed permanently in the walkway outside the Center. For additional information on the Jekyll Island Foundation or to learn more about the "Walkway to Wonder" commemorative brick program, please visit www.JekyllIslandFoundation.org or call (912) 635-4402. The Foundation office is located in Villa Osposo at 381 Riverview Drive, Jekyll Island, Ga., 31527.

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