



OCEAN CITY TODAY/TOM RISEN

Surfrider Foundation volunteer Terry Steimer poses with Ocean City resident Kathie Fisher at Ocean City Town Hall on Tuesday. Fisher won an award from the community group and a key to the city from the Ocean City Town Council for her daily beach cleanup routine.

Surfrider Foundation honors OC beach cleaning resident

TOMRISEN

■ Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2011) Some Ocean City residents really go the distance for the beaches they love and resort resident Kathie Fisher does exactly that: five miles every morning.

From spring until winter, Fisher walks up the beach daily from the inlet to about 30th Street with a bag picking up trash along the way. It's a routine that she began in the spring of 2004.

The Surfrider Foundation recognized her efforts during a City Council meeting this week with its inaugural Surfrider Recognition Award, which was presented by Surfrider Foundation volunteer Terry Steimer. Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan also gave Fisher a key to the city.

"The Surfrider Foundation does 19 beach clean-ups per year, but she does it every morning. I don't know what drives her," said Steimer, who is chairman of the "Leave Only Your Footprints," public relations campaign for beach cleanliness.

Fisher is not a member of the Surfrider Foundation but said she plans to join since an application for membership was enclosed with the award.

"The walk has been great exercise," Fisher said. "My 'at dawn' walk is down at the water line of the surf. The city beach sweepers can't get down in the wet sand, so they go along the high tide line."

Fisher thanked Meehan and Steimer, along with "the small army of town personnel, who do an absolutely fantastic job," cleaning 10 miles of beach every day.

"I hope more locals and tourists will join the Surfriders group or contribute some of their time in helping to keep our beaches beautiful and our ocean clean," Fisher said. "Plastic and styrofoam do not break down, they stay on the ocean forever. Glass bottles are just plain dangerous too."

Those interested in cleaning up beaches can contact or join the Surfrider Foundation, which hosts numerous events to clean beaches all year. Open meetings are always held during the first Saturday of every month. Surfrider volunteers are needed for Sunfest in Ocean City, which runs from Sept. 22-25. To volunteer, contact Shelly Dawson at 410-713-2206, or at ocmdsrf@gmail.com. Information about the Ocean City Surfrider Foundation is available online at ww2.surfrider.org/oceancitymd.

OCEAN CITY BRIEFS

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■ Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2011) The Ocean City council approved the following motions during its Tuesday meeting.

Ntl preparedness month

With a bit of irony, Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan proclaimed September to be National Preparedness Month to remind people of the dangers of "hurricanes and other natural and

