



FERRY BEACH

Retreat & Conference Center



Ferry Beach awakens hearts to explore, grow and renew the spirit of universal love by working in the areas of arts & culture, education, spirituality, sustainability, personal growth, and justice & action.



Welcome to Ferry Beach!



Ferry Beach has occupied these 32 acres and 19 buildings on this stretch of beachfront since 1901. Founded by Universalist minister Quillen Shinn, Ferry Beach was born in the tradition of spiritual retreats.

Ferry Beach is a nonprofit organization. We would not be able to carry out our mission without the generosity of our dedicated members. Tax deductible gifts allow us to preserve our buildings and enhance our conferences. I hope you will consider supporting Ferry Beach with a gift at ferrybeach.org/giving or visit with me this week. Each and every gift, whatever the amount, helps. We all love this place and want to maintain it in the best condition for you, our wonderful guests!

We affirm transformation as our theme this year to remind ourselves of the importance of accepting and embracing change. This leads to resiliency, our theme from last year. Transformation will happen, regardless of our willingness to embrace it. Each moment, the world changes as we change. It was a Greek philosopher that perceived that the only constant is change. He observed that you can't step into the same river twice, both the river changes and so do we!

It appears that as humans, we lose roughly 330 billion cells in our bodies every day. From the living organisms who inhabit the planet to the planet herself, we are in a state of constant change. Of course, change for us as humans appears to be hastening and yet, we have missed the infinitesimal cues that have been present all along. As we affirm the theme of transformation, we explore our connection to and embrace of change.

"Change your thoughts and you change your world."
"If you do not change direction, you may end up where you are heading."
"If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got."

Join us this summer as we explore transformation in our world and practice ways we can learn to embrace and accept changes in our lives and the world around us.

The staff of Ferry Beach are here to help, so please reach out to them if you need anything. We hope you enjoy your stay here! Please know that you are always welcome in this beautiful place by the sea.

Cathy Stackpole, Executive Director

Check-In Time: 4:00pm
Check-Out Time: 10:00AM

You are welcome to spend the day on the beach after you check out!

After check-out: Restrooms are available for use in the Grove Camping area, Quillen Lobby and DeWolfe Dining Hall.

Dorm Guests: Please pick up your linen packets upon arrival and return them before departure at the designated location in your building (Quillen Lobby, Underwood First Floor Hallway, Rowland Outside Murray Room)

Dorm Locks: 9:00 PM – 7:00 AM the dorm buildings will be locked. Please use the pin number provided to you in your check-in information to access the buildings during these times.

Registration Office

Located at 21 Ferry Park Ave (Quillen)
Phone: 207-282-4489
SMS: 207-407-6990

Monday-Friday: 9am – 4:00pm
Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am – 6:00pm

Office Hours are subject to change with or without notice.

Store

Located at 7 Boardwalk Drive, Building #3 (Clafin Building)

Monday-Sunday: 2:00pm – 9:00pm

Store Hours are subject to change with or without notice.

Dining Hall:

Breakfast: 7:30 – 8:30am
Lunch: 12:00-1:00pm
Social Hour: 5:00-6:00pm
Dinner: 6:00-7:00pm

Meals will not be sold in the dining hall. You must pre-purchase a meal plan with your registration. Movement through the dining hall will remain one-way and meals will be served cafeteria style. Enter the dining room from the Boardwalk Drive side of the building and exit through the doors on the opposite side of the room towards Ferry Park Ave. The meal line queue may extend to the outdoors during serving time. Please form lines down the walkway instead of around the interior of the dining hall or the porch. Please do not prop open the exterior doors. Please be sure you have washed your hands before entering the meal line.

Wi-Fi

Guest Network SSID: Ferry Beach Guest
Guest Network Password: ferrybeach

Note: Staff and IT networks are not accessible to guests.

Ferry Beach App

Access the full Welcome Guide, Tidings Newsletters, Chapel Programs, Conference Schedules and more on the Ferry Beach app. Download in your app store or visit app.ferrybeach.org and add to your home screen. Be sure to enable notifications!

In case of emergency, dial 9-1-1

Saco Police Department (non-emergency): 207-284-7819

Saco Fire Department (non-emergency): 207-282-3244

Coast Guard (search/rescue): 207-799-1680

Emergency Medical Attention

Southern Maine Health Care – Biddeford Medical Center

24/7 Emergency Medical Care

1 Medical Center Drive, Biddeford, ME 04005

207-283-7000

Non-Emergency Medical Attention

Southern Maine Health Care – Saco Walk-in Clinic

Open 7 days, 8:00am–7:00pm

655 Main Street, Route 1, Saco

207-294-5600

Night/On Call Staff

For facility related after-hours emergencies, please reach out to on-call staff member via voice or text at 207-977-0977.

Dorm Locking Procedure

All dorms will be locked at 9:00 pm and unlocked at 7:00 am. You will be given a passcode at check in to enter the dorms during the locked hours. Please do not lose your code.

Building Addresses:

- **Main Office:** 5 Boardwalk Drive
- **DeWolfe Dining Hall:** 7 Boardwalk Drive, Building #1
- **Quillen:** 21 Ferry Park Ave, Building #1
- **Rowland:** 14 Boardwalk Drive
- **Underwood:** 21 Ferry Park Ave, Building #2 (Access from Island View)
- **Claflin/Store:** 7 Boardwalk Drive, Building #3 (Access from Ferry Park Ave)
- **Gardiner:** 7 Boardwalk Drive, Building #4 (Access from Ferry Park Ave)
- **Art Room:** 7 Boardwalk Drive, Building #2
- **Kelley Cottage:** 8 Boardwalk Drive, Building #1
- **Cross Cottage:** 8 Boardwalk Drive, Building #2
- **Metz Village Cabins:** 8 Boardwalk Drive, Buildings 3, 4 & 5
- **Grove Garage:** 96 Seaside Ave.

See Campus Map at fbch.me/map

Rules for Community Living at Ferry Beach Retreat & Conference Center

Care for yourself. Care for others. Care for this place.

When people gather at Ferry Beach, they become part of an intentional community. All who come here enter a relationship of commitment and responsibility to others who share this space and time. When we enter an intentional community, we must agree on rules that will serve and protect not only each individual member, but also the relationships within the community and the spaces where we gather. Please join us as we observe the following guidelines necessary to maintain a safe campus and safe community.

Alcohol: Ferry Beach does not provide or serve alcoholic beverages. You may bring your own, but you must store it yourself. We cannot refrigerate or store your alcohol. The possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages by anyone under 21 years of age is prohibited by Maine law. Please do not leave alcohol unattended, as children are a part of our community.

Beach: There is no lifeguard on staff in 2024. Children are always the responsibility of a parent or guardian. Parents of small children should always accompany them to the beach. We ask that adults adopt the buddy system. Swimming is not permitted after dark.

In the event of inclement weather, the beach may be closed at the discretion of Ferry Beach management and posted as such. We ask that you respect the authority of these persons to do so. At these times swimming on the Ferry Beach waterfront is prohibited until otherwise posted. Ferry Beach follows the American Red Cross "Thunder Rule." The beach will be closed for 30 minutes after the last observed lightning or thunder.

Digging deep holes is never allowed on the beach. All shallow holes should be filled in by the time persons leave the beach to prevent injury.

Boundary Issues: One of the most cherished aspects of Ferry Beach is its supportive atmosphere for personal growth. People sometimes share and discuss intimate emotional experiences, painful and joyous. Because Ferry Beach is a diverse and multigenerational community, it is important for individuals to be aware of others when choosing where and how to discuss such topics. Please remember that private discussions should not be held in locations where others will inadvertently hear you.

Ferry Beach Property: Such as couch cushions and chairs must not be brought to the beach. If you move a chair or other items from the porch to an area outside of the porch, please return it when you are done. Couches are not sleeping spaces. Folding chairs from the dining room, art room and Dolphin room can NOT be taken outside. They rust. Please respect our property.

Firearms: This is a weapons free campus. No firearms are allowed on property, not even locked in your car.

Fires: You may build a fire in the Grove fire pit without a permit. A hose and rake are on the nearby fence. Fires must be thoroughly extinguished when you are finished by spraying the pit with water and raking it out. Fires are not allowed on the beach due to City of Saco ordinances.

Fireplaces: You may use the fireplaces in the Quillen and Gardiner lobbies. The Rose Pavilion wood stove may be requested in advance. Firewood is located behind the front washhouse in the Grove Campground.

Good Stewardship: We are all caretakers of this delicate and precious seashore area. Please help us care for our environment by turning off lights when not in use, taking short showers, making sure faucets are turned off and staying off the dunes.

Laundry Facilities: Located in the Grove and are open every day, weather permitting. Washers are \$2.50 per load and dryers are \$2.00 per load. There is a change machine in the Grove office. Laundry detergent is available for purchase.

Lost and Found: If you have lost or found items, please bring them to the Kelley Registration Office. Valuable and clean items are retained for 30 days following each conference.

Open Flames: Open flames of any kind are prohibited in any Ferry Beach building. No candles, incense, lighters, chalices, etc.

Parental Responsibility: Adults must supervise areas where youth congregate and sleep. Adults are responsible for their own children.

Parking: Parking passes are available at Quillen Registration Office for Ferry Beach registered guests.

Pastoral Counseling: A minister/chaplain of the week is available for pastoral counseling and a morning chapel service most weeks in the summer months.

Pets: Ferry Beach does not allow pets on its premises. Marked service animals are welcome if registered with the Registration Office prior to arrival.

Privacy: Guests are not allowed in crew housing, nor are crew members allowed in guest housing unless they are in housekeeping or maintenance roles. To maintain the privacy of guests and staff, Ferry Beach urges compliance with our rule that earphones be used when listening to radios or other devices.

Quiet Time: Please observe a quiet time between 11:00pm and 7:00am.

Relationships (Adult) with Children: While Ferry Beach encourages campus interactions between unrelated adults and youth, we caution adults against having one-on-one conversations with a child in a secluded location. An unrelated adult should not take a child off-campus for any reason unless accompanied by another person and always with permission of the parent.

Shoes and Shirts: Are required in the dining hall at all times.

Sleeping: In public spaces is not permitted, including lobbies, meeting spaces, or the beach. Guests must be registered in order to stay on campus overnight. Unregistered guests are not allowed to stay overnight.

Smoking: Ferry Beach is a smoke free campus and smoking is prohibited on our property, this includes vaping.

Space Heaters/Fans: Since we have old buildings with old electrical systems, space heaters are not allowed in the buildings. Box fans are available for rooms in the summer.

Wheels: Please respect our property. No recreational wheels are allowed in our buildings or on our porches. This includes bicycles, scooters, skateboards, rollerblades, etc. There are roads, pathways, and a basketball court for such activities. All roads are public—please be careful.

Enjoy your Stay!