

Personal Property Cannot be Left Overnight on the Beach

City of Galveston Overnight Beach Ordinance No. 19-017

Secs. 8-27 Personal property cannot be left overnight on the beach

Ordinance will be implemented according to dates below:

- ◆ June 30, 2019: ALL Property Left After Sunset Will Be Removed

(a) Definitions. As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section:

(1) Item of Personal Property – includes, but is not limited to items such as canopies, shade structures, tents, umbrellas, chairs, towels, equipment, games, and coolers.

(2) Unattended – refers to an item or items of personal property that are not supervised or looked after by a person.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to leave an item of personal property unattended on the public beaches or within the public beach access areas between the hours of sunset and sunrise on the following day, except as otherwise permitted.

(c) Any item of personal property left on the public beach or within public beach access areas in violation of this Section shall be deemed discarded by the owner, and may be removed, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of, accordingly by the City of Galveston, the Park Board of Trustees, or their designees.

(d) In the confiscation and disposal of any such item under this Section, the City shall not be subject to any responsibility or liability to persons or damages to property caused by the confiscation or subsequent disposal of unattended items of personal property.

(e) Exemptions. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to personal property such as equipment and materials for use in the following circumstances when authorized by the City of Galveston, Galveston County, or a State or Federal government agency:

1. Coastal and beach projects, such as beach nourishment.
2. Academic and/or scientific research.
3. Life safety, disaster recovery, emergency management or response.