

Kiawah ARB Boardwalk Guidelines and Signage Details

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Beach Boardwalk Guidelines, from *Designing with Nature*, page 28

“Construction of new or alteration of existing boardwalks must be approved by the ARB. The dune area along the beach serves as a trail system for the island wildlife and evolves constantly. Therefore, all boardwalks must be designed so as not to impede the circulation of wildlife or the natural progression of the dunes.

“The boardwalk should be maintained at a level near the existing grade, allowing one-foot clearance between the bottom of the structure and the top of the dune on all private property and within the KICA conservation zone. Handrails are discouraged except when crossing wetlands or as required by building codes. Depending on the unique characteristics of each site, a small deck measuring 12’-0” by 12’-0” maximum may be allowed landward of the property line, and a low bench without a seat back may be located on the deck. The deck must be sited within a natural valley of the dunes and will require landscape screening using indigenous plants. Some building sites may be configured such that no seating area is permitted. Any storage must be integral to the design of the bench and deck.

“Boardwalk Lighting may consist only of low profile shielded luminaries and shall be positioned so that the beach is not illuminated. These lights shall be turned off after 9:00 pm during the period of May 15 to October 31 of each year, so as not to interfere with turtle nesting. Speakers for music or television shall not be installed on boardwalks.

“All decks and boardwalks must be staked out, maintaining a three (3) foot setback from all property lines, before review by the ARB. Boardwalks should follow a natural path through vegetation and across the dunes, avoiding dune crests where possible. Clearing for stake out, construction, or views may not occur without prior onsite approval of an ARB representative.”

Signage Guidelines

One (1) wooden sign per boardwalk – location must be approved by ARB. Sign options are:

- a. Minimum size of 8” x 2” with 1” letters; Maximum size of 12” x 3” with 1.5” letters –
Sign reads PRIVATE in block, routed letters
- OR
- b. Route NO TRESPASSING into one horizontal plank of the boardwalk.