

# LIVING IN I'ON

It's a way of life, not just a place to call home



## June Events

Fri	6/2	First Friday
Tue	6/6	Screen on the Green
Thu	6/8	Playground Event
Tue	6/13	Women's Coffee
Thu	6/14	Potluck Dinner
Wed	6/15	Lunch Bunch
Wed	6/28	Yarn Buddies
	TBD	Movie Group

## Important Dates

Fri	6/2	Recycling Pickup
Sat	6/3	Full Moon
Tue	6/6	IDC Meeting
Tue	6/13	IDC Submittal Deadline
Wed	6/14	Flag Day
Thu	6/15	Recycling Pickup
Sun	6/18	Father's Day
Mon	6/19	Juneteenth Holiday
Tue	6/20	IDC Meeting
Wed	6/21	Summer Solstice
Tue	6/27	IDC Submittal Deadline
Thu	6/29	Recycling Pickup

## DOCK CLOSINGS ON PG. 3

## 2023 I'On Board Meetings 159 Civitas Street Mondays at 6:00 p.m.

June 19  
July 17  
August 21  
September 18  
October 16  
November 20  
December 18



## Alligator Safety in I'On

### Understanding Alligators

- Alligators are a common sight in the Lowcountry, and living with them requires vigilant awareness, respect, and caution.
- Alligator mating season is from late April to June. During this time, they are likely to wander from pond to pond as they search for mates.
- Alligators are naturally fearful of humans and not normally aggressive, but they can be dangerous if approached, fed, or provoked.



### Understanding Your Role

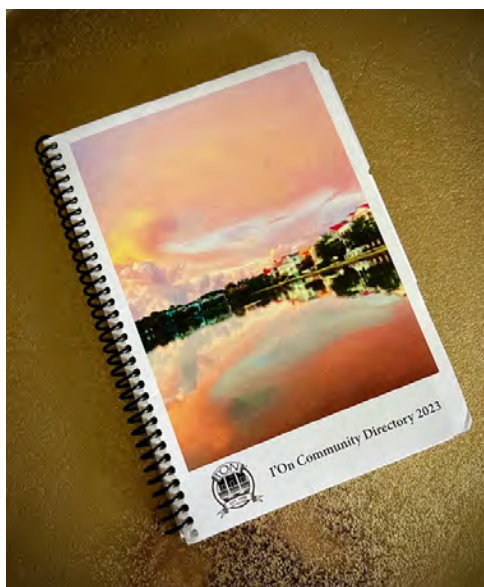
- Alligators are an important part of South Carolina's ecosystem and they are protected by both state and federal law.
- Alligators are known as a 'keystone species' and they play an important role in ensuring a healthy, biodiverse ecosystem, which is critical for all species - including humans. Alligators perform necessary services like providing fresh water for other wildlife to drink by digging 'gator holes,' which bring groundwater to the surface. They also help control the population of several other species they prey on. If a 'keystone species' becomes extinct, the entire ecosystem changes, and many species that come to depend upon the keystone species may also face extinction.



- You can help protect one of the Lowcountry's most iconic native species by avoiding any interaction with them.
- As a protected species, it is illegal to feed, relocate, and harass an alligator. Alligators fed by humans come to expect food with each human encounter and if they don't get food, they may become aggressive. -

*Continued on Page 11*

While enjoying walks and taking in the views along the Marsh and Rookery Trails, West Lake, East Lake, and Canal Paths, residents must remain vigilant and use common sense.



## 2024 Directory Ad Space Available

The 2024 I'On Community Directory will go to the printer in October so that directories can be distributed in a timely manner with The Giving Lights.

There is no requirement that ads need to be purchased by I'On residents. It is open to the public, so feel free to pass this along to friends and business owners outside of I'On. Ad space preferences will be reserved in the order that submission forms are received.

If you would like an ad to be included in the 2024 directory, please fill out the **FORM** and send it back to [mary.ion@ravenelassociates.com](mailto:mary.ion@ravenelassociates.com) no later than July 7th. Once ad placements are confirmed, sizing guidelines for how we will need to receive your ads will be sent.

**All final ads MUST be received by July 24th!**

If we do not receive your ad by July 24th, you will still be required to submit payment for the ad space that was reserved.

Please call (843) 388-7547 or email [mary.ion@ravenelassociates.com](mailto:mary.ion@ravenelassociates.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

## 2023 Giving Lights Nominations


Each year during the holiday season, The I'On Trust coordinates a fundraising project, the Giving Lights of I'On, which sells luminary kits to support a local nonprofit organization that addresses a basic human need in our community. It begins with information and order forms distributed mid-October to neighbors with the hope that they will participate by making a contribution to receive one or more luminary kits in support of this project. The fundraiser culminates with neighbors lining the street in front of their homes with luminaires and lighting them all on the same night, during the Holiday Festival, in celebration of the season of giving and the local nonprofit they have helped support.



The neighbor nominating the organization should be prepared to recruit volunteers and participate fully in the fundraising process. The process begins in late August with a couple of planning meetings. There is work to be done in late August leading up to the kick off in mid October in which order forms are delivered to homes in I'On. Orders continue to be received until the week before Thanksgiving when we put together the luminary kits that will be delivered to each household that participates in the fundraiser. We will be receiving nominations until Friday, July 21, 2023.

**To nominate an organization, click [HERE](#)**

If you would like more information about this fundraiser you may contact Antonia Fokas at [admin@iontrust.org](mailto:admin@iontrust.org) or complete the form at the link above and leave any questions in the additional comments section.

 <b>DOCK CLOSINGS JUNE 2023</b>		
Date of Event 2023	Event Type	Ceremony Starts
Friday June. 2nd	Wedding & Reception	4:25-4:55
Saturday June. 3rd	Wedding & Reception	4:25-4:55
Sunday June. 4th	Wedding & Reception	5:25-5:55
Friday June. 9th	Wedding & Reception	5:25-5:55
Saturday June. 10th	Wedding & Reception	5:25-5:55
Sunday June. 11th	Wedding & Reception	4:55-5:25
Friday June. 16th	Wedding & Reception	5:25-5:55
Saturday June. 17th	Wedding & Reception	5:25-5:55
Sunday June. 18th	Wedding & Reception	4:55-5:25
Friday June. 23rd	Wedding & Reception	4:55-5:25
Saturday June. 24th	Wedding & Reception	5:25-5:55
Sunday June. 25th	Wedding & Reception	4:25-4:55

## FIRST FRIDAY

**Friday, June 2 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Hosted by Debbie & Craig Ferrer at 182 N. Shelmore Blvd.**



No need to RSVP, just please remember to bring your own libations, drinking glasses and a small appetizer to share.

Many thanks to Carter Ward for hosting us in May in your stunning home. Everyone had a great night.

We still have openings for July, September, October and November. Please contact Wendy Nixon at (203) 858-7909 if you would like to host a party. - Wendy Nixon, Amy Goldy and Carter Ward, your FF coordinators.

## WOMEN'S COFFEE

**Tuesday, June 13 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Hosted by Andrea Rose Rousseaux at 31 Eastlake Road**



Join us this month in the lovely garden at the home of Andrea Rose Rousseaux. Please bring a cup for coffee or tea. As a courtesy to the hostess and others, we ask that all guests be vaccinated with boosters. No RSVP is necessary.

Call coordinators Joyce Stifel (574) 276-5000 or Susan Fitzgerald (703) 402-3298 for further information. The coffees are sponsored by the I'On Trust.

## POTLUCK DINNER

**Wednesday, June 14 - 6:30 p.m. at the Creek Club**

**HOSTS NEEDED**



Would you like to host your neighbors Wednesday, June 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Creek Club? If so, contact Wendy Nixon at (203) 858-7909.

Many thanks to Karen and Roy Rathbun for hosting our May Tsunami potluck. You're great sports!

Currently, we do not have hosts for June, July, August, and November. Let Wendy know if you would you like to help, and meet some great neighbors too! Thanks! - Wendy Nixon, Amy Goldy, Lendy Barnard and Carline Soutter, your Potluck committee.



## LUNCH BUNCH

**Thursday, June 15 - 11:50 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Hosted by Barbara Fowler at White Duck Taco Shop, 341 Johnnie Dodds Blvd.  
(Whole Foods Shopping Center)**



A special thank you to Vicky Wynn for hosting May's lunch at Little Miss Ha in Mt. Pleasant.

The June Lunch Bunch will be hosted by Barbara Fowler, starting at 11:50 a.m. at the brand new White Duck Taco Shop at 341 Johnnie Dodds Blvd. in Mt. Pleasant. Come check it out and share a meal with new and old friends. Please RSVP to Barbara Fowler ([barbfow50@gmail.com](mailto:barbfow50@gmail.com)) by Monday, June 12th. This venue does not take reservations so she will need to know how many seats to save.

We are looking for hosts for July, August and December. Hosting is easy! All you have to do is pick your favorite restaurant and collect RSVPs. Please contact Kristen Anderson at [kristenande@gmail.com](mailto:kristenande@gmail.com) if you are interested or have questions.

## YARN BUDDIES

**Wednesday, June 28 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Hosted by Kiki Lusebrink, 44 Rialto Road**



Thank you to Kiki Lusebrink for hosting the June Yarn Buddies. Please let Kiki know if you are able to attend by texting or emailing her at (949) 637-2445, [dbakiki@aol.com](mailto:dbakiki@aol.com).

Yarn Buddies was designed for those who want to encourage and share their imagination, inspiration, and creativity in the handcrafted arts. Anyone interested in the creative arts of handiwork is warmly invited to attend, be it knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, jewelry making, quilting, rug hooking, etc...

## I'ON WOMEN'S MOVIE GROUP...

Films and Dates TBD



Please email Jan Laabs at [laabsjan@hotmail.com](mailto:laabsjan@hotmail.com) to be added to the list to receive evites for upcoming movie nights.



## SPECIAL EVENT - Ramble Over to the Scramble

**Thursday, June 8**

**5:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

**at the Scramble Playground (behind the shops at I'on)**

Come meet neighbors and young kiddos on Thursday, June 8 from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Scramble playground. Drinks and light bites provided by your neighbor and local realtor, Jessica Smith of Dunes Properties.

Please contact Jessica at [jsmith@dunesproperties.com](mailto:jsmith@dunesproperties.com) if you have any questions. An RSVP is appreciated so we know how many to expect.



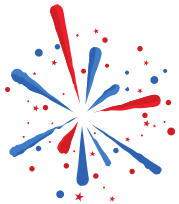
## THIS MONTH WITH THE I'ON TRUST

### Screen on the Green

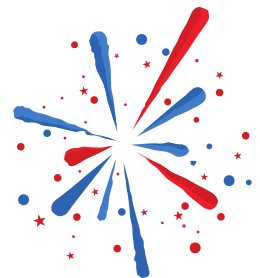
**Tuesday, June 6 - 8:30 p.m. at Westlake Amphitheater**

Grab your friends and come celebrate the end of school and the start of summer with an outdoor movie! The Trust will be hosting its annual Screen on the Green at Westlake with popcorn and other treats.

The movie will not be suitable for younger viewers. Middle and high school students' viewers are recommended.



**COMING Tuesday, July 4 - From Morning till Night...**



**July 4th Parade - 9:20 a.m.**

**Meet at Moultrieville Road and N. Shelmore**

Decorate those golf carts & dress in your most patriotic attire, or wear your red, white, and blue. The most festive golf cart will win prizes! Kids, dogs, walkers, bikers, wagons, etc. are welcome. Get creative and join the fun! More details to come in the July Newsletter.

**Salute at the Lake - 10:00 a.m.**

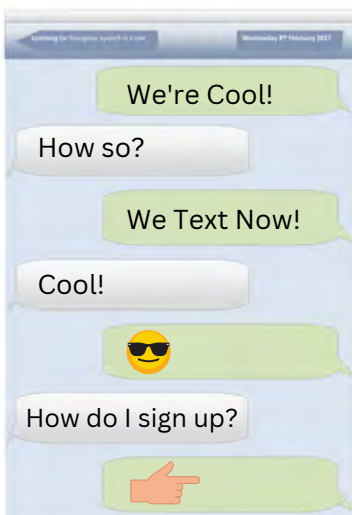
**Westlake Amphitheatre**

Following the parade, we celebrate our country's birthday with patriotic music, the National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance, and excerpts from the Declaration of Independence by I'On Neighbors. At the end of the salute, we award the winners of the golf cart contest!

### Concert

**Westlake Amphitheatre 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

The First Class Band" returns to play at Westlake Amphitheater. Bring the family, a picnic, and your dancing shoes!



## Sign Up to Receive Text Messages from the Trust

For last minute changes to I'On Trust events and for friendly reminders we hope that you sign up for our new SMS messaging!  
We promise we won't send more than a few a month, at the most!

**Opt in to receive text messages [HERE](#)**

Any questions, please reach out to [admin@iontrust.org](mailto:admin@iontrust.org).

## COMMUNITY SAFETY INFORMATION



The Town of Mount Pleasant Police Department has recently seen an increase in car break-ins. This is a friendly reminder to lock your vehicles at night. If your vehicle is broken into or you witness suspicious behavior please contact the Town of Mount Pleasant Police Department at (843) 884-4176.



June 1st marks the official start of the 2023 hurricane season. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is predicting a normal Atlantic hurricane season this year, with 13 named storms, 6 hurricanes and 2 major hurricanes.

Now is a good time to create a plan for you and your family and to review the [2023 Hurricane Guide](#) from Charleston County. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) also provides useful hurricane preparedness information on their website [www.hurricane.sc](http://www.hurricane.sc).

We also highly encourage all residents to sign up for the Town of Mount Pleasant alerts, as you will receive the most current emergency alerts and most current updates on topics such as trash pick-up, road closures, etc.

You can sign up for alerts by visiting the Town's website at [www.tompsc.com](http://www.tompsc.com). Hover over the "I Want To" tab, then select "Subscribe" / "Notify Me" and you can select your email preferences and sign up for their alerts.



As a reminder, NO golf carts or any motorized vehicles (motorized bicycles/scooters) are permitted to be operated in or on any of the common areas or their pathways. This includes the Westlake & Eastlake Paths, The Rookery, Marsh Path, Maybank Green, Eastlake Athletic Field, Playgrounds, etc.



No more pencils. No more books. Students are now on summer break. That means drivers are being cautioned to pay more attention, especially near playgrounds, parks, and residential areas. If children are playing near or on the street, please use caution, reduce speed, and be prepared to stop quickly. This applies to bicyclists as well.

Parents, be a role model – Teach your children to follow the rules of the road, such as using a crosswalk safely at an intersection, and only crossing after making eye contact with drivers. Set a good example by driving responsibly, minimizing distractions from electronic devices or phones, and not drinking and driving. Let's make it a safe summer!





## PROPER DISPOSAL OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IS EASY

We all want to make sure that our old prescription drugs don't end up in the wrong hands. So, how do we get rid of them safely?

***NO, NO, NO to flushing them down the toilet!***

The SC Department of Health and Environmental Control has stated that drugs that enter our sewer system cannot be filtered out at the sewer treatment plant. That water finds its way to the ocean, resulting in high levels of drugs in the water and in marine animals.

***PLEASE take your drugs to a "Take-Back" site near you.***

We have two in our neighborhood:

1. The Town Hall Police Department at 100 Ann Edwards Lane. This is our main municipal building for Mount Pleasant, located behind Whole Foods.
2. Tidewater Pharmacy, 421 Johnnie Dodds Blvd (next to Trader Joe's) will also accept and properly dispose of the drugs.



***I'On Eco Group:  
Preserving I'On's beauty through sound environmental practices.***

For information, contact Carol Degnen at [cdegnen@gmail.com](mailto:cdegnen@gmail.com)

## I'ON COMMUNITY GARDEN

### June is a Month of Transition in the Community Garden

by Dr. April Gordon

May is one of the easiest and most pleasant times for I'On community gardeners. The weather is warm, days are longer, and rain is plentiful enough to reduce the need for watering. And especially welcoming, both weeds and plant diseases and pests are of limited concern. With such ideal growing conditions, cool season lettuce, kale, parsley, and peas have been at their peak. But with warmer weather ahead, the days of cool-weather crops are numbered.

Fortunately, our mild climate allows us to get a head start on planting warm season favorites such as tomatoes, squash, beans, peppers, and basil, most of which were planted in April or early May. Many flowers too have been planted including calendula, marigolds, zinnias, dahlias, gladiolus, and sunflowers. All of these are blooming in May and early June.

Thanks to the work of your community gardener neighbors, the garden is a delightful place to visit and see a multitude of beautiful and diverse plants. Although the garden is now between cool and warm seasons, in June the transition to warm weather crops will be mostly complete as the bolting (going to seed) lettuces, kale, and parsley are replaced by mature warm weather crops ready to be harvested with additional late summer melons, okra, and eggplant to follow. Although our work increases in June and throughout the summer, so do the rewards of eating fresh, organically grown food and enjoying beautiful flowers in the garden and at home. Below is a brief photo tour of what's in our garden now that we hope will encourage you to visit the garden in June and throughout the year. To learn more, contact April Gordon at [dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com](mailto:dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com).



As you enter the community garden you will notice a large variety of vegetables, herbs, and flowers.



Most garden plots have a diversity of vegetables, flowers, and herbs.



In late May some tomatoes are ready to be picked.



These less common patty pan summer squash will soon be ready to harvest.



What can bring more joy than a garden full of flowers: in this case dahlias, zinnias, and gladiolus.



## BUTTERFLY GARDEN

### How to View the Butterfly Garden

by Dr. April Gordon

As many people living in or near I'On know, the Butterfly Garden is a gem tucked away in the large grassy field on Eastlake Road in association with the Community Garden. However, despite the fact that the garden has been here since 2015, many people stroll by the garden and admire the pretty flowers but are missing much of what the garden has to offer. Here are a few tips to remember for your next visit.

Of primary importance, recognize that the butterfly garden exists foremost to provide a native plant habitat for butterflies, especially endangered Monarchs, and other pollinating insects. Habitat destruction from human activities threatens them and other wildlife, including many bird species. Our garden is one small effort to create awareness of this environmental problem and promote change. Every garden plant you see is there because it provides shelter, food, and places to reproduce for a diversity of pollinators.

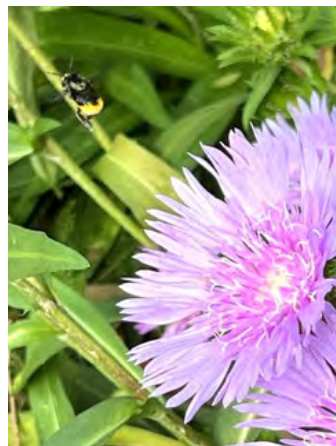


**Outside the garden fence you can't help but notice the butterfly garden flowers inside. But what's their story?**

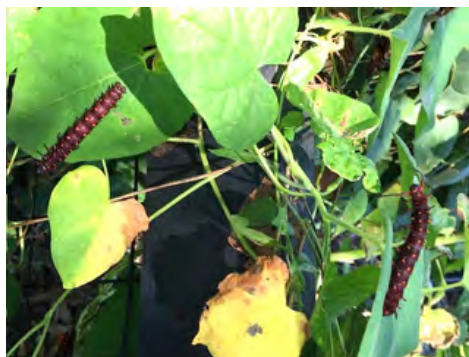
Next, be aware that the butterfly garden is not just inside the community garden fence; much of it is outside the fence including the tree/shrub area with larger plants such as native azaleas, viburnums, and redbud trees. Inviting teak benches where visitors can relax and admire the view are located under majestic oaks (native plants which host hundreds of pollinators). Look for yellow plant markers to find the common names for the pollinator plants outside the fence. Inside the fence are annual and perennial plants, many of which provide nectar and pollen for diverse butterflies and bees but also food for butterfly caterpillars that require the leaves of specific plants. Best known of these is the Monarch, whose caterpillars can only eat milkweed. Plants inside the fence are identified with metal markers. Most people are not familiar with the many butterflies that can be seen in the garden. To learn their names and facts about them, there are laminated information sheets in a box under the butterfly garden sign on the fence near the front of the garden.

You are now prepared to enjoy the garden more fully. You know where the plants are, why they are in the garden, and what their names are. You can learn to identify most of the butterflies you will see. And most of all you can better appreciate that the garden is an ecosystem in which plants and wildlife are interrelated to enable each to thrive. A valuable lesson for all of us.

The I'On Butterfly Garden depends on the support of I'On neighbors. Contact April Gordon at [dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com](mailto:dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com) to find out how you can help as a garden volunteer.



**Bees collect pollen from native plants like this Stokes Aster.**



**Pipevine Swallowtail caterpillars can only eat pipevine leaves, which grow on the garden fence.**



**Nestled under shady oak trees, teak benches are an invitation to relax and enjoy the view of garden plants.**



**An information box provides photos and facts about common butterflies that come to the garden because of its many plants such as pipevines on the fence and milkweed, scarlet salvia, Stokes aster, bronze fennel, yarrow, Shasta daisy, and blue mistflower (shown in late May).**



# Thank You IAH Volunteers!

*A community of friends enjoying enriched, vibrant and independent lives together*

## Neighbors helping neighbors...the heart of I'On At Home

Last month, we joined together at the our annual Spring Fling to honor our amazing IAH volunteers who give their time and effort throughout the year providing services, organizing programs and keeping I'On At Home running.

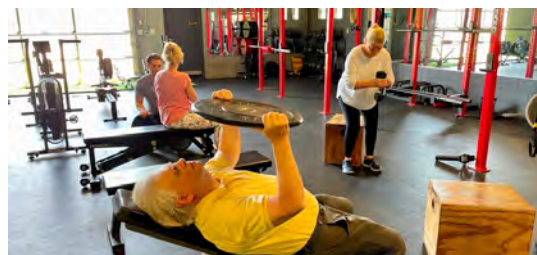
*We couldn't do it without them!*



## Here are some of the great IAH events that we enjoyed in May



A live backyard concert by two of Charleston's Jazz masters, Alva Anderson and Frank Duval.



As apart of our CHOICES program, we joined personal trainer Andrew Howard for a 90-minute lecture and exercise class to improve mobility, flexibility and balance.



The Ladies of Laurel Canyon, a live magical night of theatre and music exploring the lives of Cass Elliott, Janis Joplin, Linda Ronstadt, Joan Baez, Judy Collins, Carole King & Joni Mitchell.

## Over 55, I'On At Home is for you!

Join us and become a part of a lively group of neighbors interested in learning new things, sharing cultural and social activities and helping each other.

Contact Mary Holtz, IAH Administrative Manager: [maryh@ionathome.org](mailto:maryh@ionathome.org)  
or visit us at: <https://ionathome.helpfulvillage.com>



## Welcome New Neighbors

Be sure to stop by to welcome and introduce yourself to...

**Ruthie and David Gryboski**  
55 Sowell Street



## Communications Committee

**Michael Spalding**  
Communications Chair

**Fran Tepperman**  
Living In I'On Editor

**Mary Kaplan**  
Ambassador Chair

**Kathie Haas**  
**Danielle Marin**

**Kat Harberg & Antonia Fokas**  
I'On Trust

**Mary James & Emily Simpson**  
HOA Managers, Ravenel Associates



The Communications Committee wants to hear from you! Click [HERE](#) to submit your questions, comments, requests, or concerns. It's always a pleasure to hear from a Living in I'On reader!

## Alligator Q&A

*Continued from page 1 -*

**Q:** What is a nuisance alligator?

**A:** A nuisance alligator is an alligator that has become a significant safety risk. This occurs when an alligator has been fed and has lost its inherent fear of people

**Q:** What happens when the Assembly gets a call about an alligator sighting?

**A:** The Assembly calls their alligator consultant, a second-generation alligator specialist. Based on SCDNR and the National Wildlife Control Training Program, the alligator specialist evaluates and tests the alligator. During the evaluation process, the specialist will conduct a series of tests to see if the alligator is threatening/aggressive.

**Q:** What happens after the evaluation?

**A:** If the alligator is deemed non-threatening, the alligator is left alone. If the specialist deems the alligator threatening, the alligator will be properly removed according to SCDNR's rules and regulations. Threatening alligators are removed for safety. Not all alligators have to be removed.

**Q:** What happens to an alligator once removed?

**A:** Once an alligator becomes overly familiar with people, they lose their fear of humans, necessitating their removal for the safety of everyone concerned. All removed alligators are exterminated per South Carolina State Law. Relocation is illegal due to an alligator's strong homing instinct.

**Q:** What can residents do to help?

**A:** It is critical that people do not feed, taunt, or interact with alligators. People and alligators safely co-exist peacefully in communities across the Lowcountry. Please discuss alligator protocol with children and teenagers and stress the importance of not feeding or harassing alligators. Feeding or harassing alligators is illegal under South Carolina State Law.



The residents of I'On live in harmony with nature. While enjoying all that our community has to offer, be smart, stay aware, and discuss alligator safety precautions with your family.