



## Save the Dunes!

Did you know that American beach grass has delicate underground roots that run horizontally, called rhizomes. These rhizomes sprawl out and connect nearby plants. When you, your children or your pets walk on the dunes, you crush these rhizomes, which creates a wound that bacteria, fungi and viruses can enter that not only kill the plant that was stepped by, but also the plants it is connected to.

**Please help Sea Bright and stay off the dunes.**



## Thank you!!

*We appreciate your help to save Sea Bright!!  
Enjoy your visit and thank you for protecting our town!*

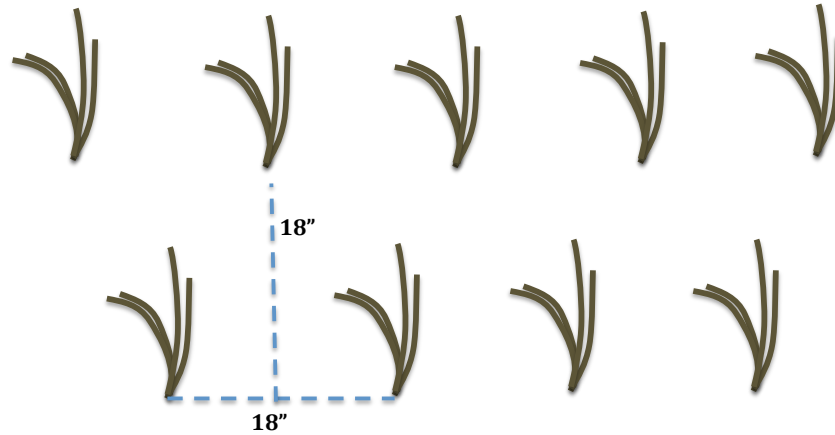


## Dune Grass Planting



## A Brief Guide





## How to plant beach grass

- Planting is done during the dormant season, typically from mid-October to early March
- Beach grass often comes in bundles of 50 or 100 culms (individual stems)
- Please plant only 2 stems/culms per hole. Placing more than two stems per hole will increase competition for nutrients causing loss of plants
- Plants (holes) should be spaced 18" apart.
- There should be 18" between rows.
- The rows should be staggered to provide maximum wind erosion control.  
(See illustration above)

**Step 1:** Open a hole 10 to 12 inches deep with a pointed stick or spade. Place 2 individual stems/culms, with roots facing down, in the hole to a depth of 8 inches. If plants are not planted 8 inches deep, they may dry out or be blown out by the wind.

**Step 2:** Press next to the plant to firm the sand and eliminate air space in the root zone.

## Q&A

**What if the culms look dead?**

Roots are usually NOT evident at the end of a culm of beach grass during planting. Roots will develop from the basal nodes *after* planting. Please plant all the culms in the bundle, even if they look dead.

**Why is it that you can walk on the dunes to plant the beach grass, but have to stay off dunes in the summer?**

During planting season the plants are dormant. During the warmer months, the plants awaken and shoot out delicate roots that are highly susceptible to injury from foot traffic