



Stay Safe Around Alligators

**NEVER APPROACH, FEED
OR HARASS ALLIGATORS.
THESE ACTIONS ARE
DANGEROUS AND
ILLEGAL - PUNISHABLE
BY FINE OR JAIL TIME.**

Do not enter ponds. Keep children and pets away from pond edges.

Do not taunt, tease or bait alligators. Do not walk up to an alligator to get a photo or to see it closer.

On the golf course, do not retrieve a golf ball that is near an alligator or in a pond. When a ball lands near an alligator, the rules of golf (16.2) allow for a new ball to be played from a relief area without penalty.

On Kiawah Island, we coexist closely with alligators. This proximity requires a vigilant awareness, respect and caution. Never approach an alligator for any reason - to take a picture, see it closer, retrieve a golf ball, or to frighten it away. These actions may make the alligator feel threatened, and it could result in a dangerous encounter. Alligators are naturally fearful of people and will not pursue a human unless it has been fed, harassed, or approached.

If you encounter an alligator that shows any sign that it is not fearful of humans, please immediately report it to The Town of Kiawah Island during business hours at 843-768-9166 or the community association after-hours at 843-768-5566. An island biologist will evaluate the alligator, and if it is deemed an unsafe nuisance, it will be euthanized.

Kiawah's alligator population self-regulates and has remained healthy and stable over the last decade. Kiawah averages about one mature alligator (at least six feet in length) for every three acres of pond surface area.