



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Assateague Island
National Seashore

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Assateague Island National Seashore

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Patricia Kicklighter named Superintendent of Assateague Island National Seashore

Berlin, MD-- Acting Superintendent Carl Zimmerman is pleased to announce the selection of Patricia “Trish” Kicklighter as the new Superintendent of Assateague Island National Seashore. Kicklighter succeeds Scott Bentley, who became Superintendent at San Antonio Missions National Historical Park in San Antonio.

“We are very fortunate to welcome Trish to our National Seashore. She will bring a wealth of experience in park management as well as the commitment to outstanding park programs—especially for youth,” said Zimmerman. “She also has an excellent ability to develop partnerships with local communities.”

A 25 year National Park Service veteran, Kicklighter has served at Shenandoah National Park in Virginia since 2001, first as Chief of Administration and later as Deputy Superintendent. “Together with the park partners and employees,” said Kicklighter, “I know we can work to protect Assateague Island National Seashore for future generations of park visitors.”

Previous assignments include working as an interpreter at Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Missouri and at Cabrillo National Monument, San Diego, where she traded in her interpretive duties for managing the park’s finances. She also served as a budget analyst for Point Reyes National Seashore in California and the NPS Pacific West Regional Office and as the Associate Deputy Manager of Budget and Finance at the NPS Harpers Ferry Design Center in West Virginia.

Kicklighter received the 2001 Crystal Owl Award recognizing her contributions in the training and development field of the National Park Service. She was co-designer of the NPS Budget Cost Projection program and served on the design team for the NPS financial tracking program.

Kicklighter is a native Missourian, and graduated from Southwest Missouri State University with a bachelor’s degree in Wildlife Conservation and Management. She met her husband Wayne while they both worked at Ozark National Scenic Riverways.



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For more information on Assateague Island National Seashore, visit www.nps.gov/asis/.

About Assateague Island National Seashore: Established in 1965 as a unit of the National Park Service, Assateague Island National Seashore boasts a dynamic 37 mile long barrier island including 39,723 acres of land, several smaller marsh islands and an even larger expanse of water resources just off the coasts of Maryland and Virginia. Within the boundaries of the seashore, visitors encounter Maryland's most popular state park and a national wildlife refuge. Assateague Island National Seashore provides a protected enclave for complex plant and animal communities, both terrestrial and aquatic, which characterize the mid-Atlantic coast, and fully illustrates the natural processes of change which is constantly shaping the coastal environment.

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