

# How to build A SANDCASTLE



Busy at work at the sandcastle contest.

By Brenna Visser  
Cannon Beach Gazette

For one weekend a year for the past 53 years, the long and narrow sands of Cannon Beach transform from an empty oasis into a giant sandcastle-crafting competition. Cars flood the beach, bonfires rage, music plays and 6-foot sculptures are built out of sand.

This year, about 30,000 are anticipated to come to watch it happen Friday, June 8, through Sunday, June 10.

The Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest began in 1964 as a way to encourage people back onto the beach after a tsunami hit the Oregon Coast. Now entering its 54th year, it is the oldest sandcastle competition west of the Mississippi River.

While the Sandcastle Contest seems to come each year as dependably and independently as the tides themselves, the annual event is the product of a years' worth of planning and coordination. Behind the scenes are Jim Paino, the executive director of the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce, and Debbie Nelson, the event's chief organizer. Together they shared what it takes to make Cannon Beach's headlining event happen.

## By the numbers

Note: These are the projected figures for 2018 based on 2017's totals.

8: The number of people on the official Sandcastle Contest committee.

100: The number of volunteers it takes to set up, facilitate and tear down the event.

1 year: The time it takes to organize one Sandcastle Contest day. "In fact," Paino added, "we've already done some planning for next year."

8: The number of law enforcement officers on duty to help direct traffic onto the beach and keep the event safe. Usually, they are accompanied by a handful of Community Emergency Response Team members, as well.

20: The number of sponsorships it takes to finance the event.

165: The number of first-, second- and third-place medallions ordered for contest winners.

400: The number of participant ribbons ordered for both the sandcastle building competition and the Singing Sands run on Sunday, June 10.

3: How many hours it takes to set up all the infrastructure on the beach the day-of Saturday, June 9.

4: The number of different permits required by the city, state and health department to put on the event.

500: The number of cars that must be shepherded onto the beach for the day. The Sandcastle Contest is the only day where people are allowed to park on the sand in Cannon Beach without a special permit.

16: The number of porta-potties ordered to handle 30,000 spectators and participants.

178-200: The number of participants

Paino and Nelson expect any given year.

1½: The number of pallets of water and soda the team orders to quench everyone's thirst.

36: How many boxes of graham crackers are purchased for free s'mores offered at the bonfire Saturday, June 9.

250: The number of marshmallows needed to make s'mores at the bonfire.

216: The number of chocolate bars it takes to make enough s'mores at the bonfire.

400: The number of hamburgers ordered and served on average at Sandcastle Contest day.

966: How many official Sandcastle Day T-Shirts have been ordered.

1,066: The number of yards of string it takes to mark off about 30 sandcastle-building plots on the beach.

Unquantifiable: The amount of coffee it takes to get it all done. "Although I think we mostly run off adrenaline," Nelson said.

Priceless: The feeling Paino and Nelson get after seeing everyone enjoy the event. "My favorite point is when you see smiles on everyone's faces. When we've hit that point, I know we've done it," Paino said.

## MORE INFO

### FRIDAY, JUNE 8

10 A.M. TO 5 P.M.: Packets n' Pail Pickup. Cannon Beach Chamber & Visitors Center

5:30 P.M.: Sandcastle Parade. Participants line up at Second Street and Spruce at 5 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 9

NOON: Sandcastle Contest Begins on the beach.

5:30 P.M.: Final Judging and Awards Presentation to follow.

7 TO 10 P.M.: Live music on the beach. Bonfire with free s'mores starts at 8 p.m.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 10

9 A.M.: Singing Sands 5K fun run/walk. Starts on the beach at the end of Second Street.



Epic construction at the 2015 sandcastle contest.

CANNON BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



**Alaina Giguere**  
Owner/Principal Broker  
c: 503.440.3202  
f: 877.812.1126  
e: alainagiguere@mac.com

#1 in sales 2016 and 2017



**Marty Giguere**  
Owner/Broker  
c: 503.440.7676  
c: 503.436.1777  
e: mr007@pacifier.com



**Egrane Brown**  
Broker  
c: 503.440.1648  
e: egranebrown@gmail.com



**Susan Tone**  
Broker  
c: 503.354.4072  
e: susantone@nehalemte.net

# Coastal Advantage

CoastalAdvantage.com

2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU!

219 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach 503.436.1777  
430 Laneda, Manzanita 503.368.1777

Member of 2 MLS Systems Each office is independently owned & operated



**Maryann Sinkler**  
Broker  
c: 503.440.9280  
e: maryanns@remax.net



**Andrea Mace**  
Broker  
c: 503-440-4024  
e: Andrea.k.mace@remax.net



**Gerri Lane**  
Broker  
c: 503.741.0007  
e: gerilane@remax.net



**Hilary Herman**  
Broker  
c: 503-791-4718  
e: HilaryHerman@hotmail.com



**Shelley Parker**  
Broker  
c: 503-739-1977  
e: Shelley.Parker@mail.com



**Cheryl Johnson**  
Broker  
c: 503-739-1977  
e: Cheryl.Johnson@remax.net

All brokers listed are licensed in the State of Oregon

79070 COVE BEACH RD  
Cove Beach • \$949,000

82927 HWY 53  
Seaside • \$858,000  
3+ ACRES

89234 MANION DR  
Gearhart • \$849,000

89916 MANION DR  
Surf Pines • \$769,000

4040 S HEMLOCK  
Cannon Beach • \$759,000

187 SUSITNA  
Cannon Beach • \$749,000

186 TREASURE COVE  
Manzanita • \$689,000  
NEW LISTING

123 S HEMLOCK #201  
Cannon Beach • \$649,000  
NEW PRICE

124 W ORFORD  
Cannon Beach • \$674,999

155 AMBER  
Cannon Beach • \$629,000

164 MAHER  
Cannon Beach • \$599,900

36124 HWY 26  
Seaside • \$595,000

SCAN HERE to go to our website

116 HILLS LN  
Cannon Beach • \$595,000

3579 S HEMLOCK  
Cannon Beach • \$569,000  
NEW LISTING

861 S HEMLOCK  
DUPLIX Cannon Beach • \$539,500  
NEW LISTING

773 AVE 'A'  
Gearhart • \$539,000

4877 DRUMMOND DR  
Gearhart • \$529,000  
NEW LISTING

476 FAIRWAY CT  
Seaside • \$479,000

123 ARBOR LN  
Cannon Beach • \$479,000

191 E MONROE  
Cannon Beach • \$459,000

512 BREAKERS POINT  
Cannon Beach • \$459,000

3763 COHO PL  
Cannon Beach • \$389,000

79827 HAMLET RT  
Seaside • \$289,000  
OFF THE GRID

420 ELK CREEK CONDO #601  
Cannon Beach • \$228,900

"Real Estate standards for those with 'Higher' Expectations. RE/MAX above the crowd!"