



- [Home](#)
- [About Us »](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Ways to Support us »](#)
- [Stations »](#)
- [WaterWise Academy](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [Stats](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [SafeTrx](#)



nsri.org.za National Sea Rescue Institute



- [Home](#)
- [Ads](#)
- [Awards](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Winners](#)
- [News](#)
- [Rescue](#)
- [Video](#)
- [WaterWise](#)

You are here: [Home](#) / [News](#) / **SPRING TIDE RIP CURRENT WARNING:**

SPRING TIDE RIP CURRENT WARNING:

[News](#) | 23. Dec. 2014 | [3 Comments](#)

With more people on the beaches over the festive season NSRI are urging the public to be extra cautious between now and the New Year with the New Moon Spring Tide, which peaked yesterday, that will cause stronger than normal rip currents around the coast.

NSRI are urging extreme public caution around the coast until into the New Year.

The NEW MOON SPRING TIDE peaked yesterday, 22nd December. Very strong rip currents will be present around the coast over the next 6 to 8 days.

Bathers and shoreline anglers are most at risk and extreme caution is advised

Spring Tide happens twice every month, at full moon and at new moon.

Spring Tides bring a higher than normal high tide and a lower than normal low tide, causing stronger than normal rip currents, for a few days leading up to the full moon OR new moon, peaking on the day of the full moon OR new moon and lasting for a few days after the full moon OR new moon.

There are two high tides and two low tides every day. During Spring Tide the twice daily high tides are higher than normal and the twice daily low tides are lower than normal and while rip currents are always present and dangerous the Spring Tide creates stronger than normal rip currents and hence the danger is increased.

Rip Currents are caused when the water reaching the shoreline in waves, swells and sea currents needs to find a way to retreat back into the sea and this is achieved in rip currents (a river of water retreating through the incoming swells back out into the sea).

There are two types of rip currents, permanent rip currents, found alongside islands, rocky outcrops jutting into the sea, at river mouths, in between reefs and alongside harbour walls and piers, are found constantly occurring in the same place allowing the water reaching the shoreline to retreat back into the sea in the permanent rip current. Temporary rip currents, found along beach fronts (along the shoreline), are forever changing their position and are unpredictable and can form suddenly along a beach front without warning at different places along the shore front throughout the day.

During Spring Tide these permanent rip currents and temporary rip currents are stronger than normal and although rip currents at all times pose a danger to bathers they pose the greatest danger during the Spring Tide.

Bathers are at risk of being swept out to sea by rip currents while swimming or wading in water along the beach front. Even bathers wading in shallow water who find themselves trapped in a rip current that forms suddenly are at risk of being swept out to sea by rip currents.

Bathers caught in a rip current should not panic. Simply stay afloat by treading water (moving your arms and legs in circular movements), don't try to swim against the current as it will only cause you exhaustion and let the current sweep you out to sea but at your first opportunity swim parallel to the beach front until you are free of the rip current and then use the incoming waves to get back to shore.

While this is happening scream for help and wave your arm to alert people on the beach to raise the alarm.

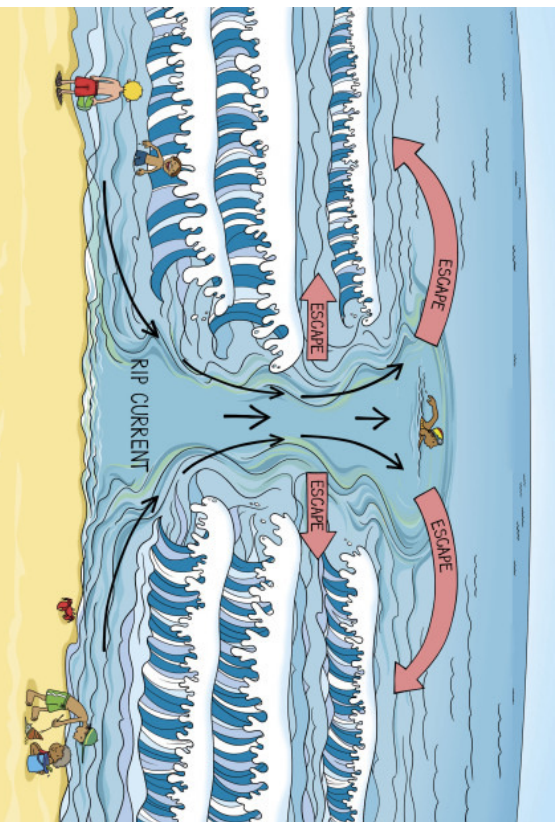
Swim at beaches where lifeguards are on duty and obey the instructions of the lifeguards and only swim within the safe swimming zones. Lifeguards mark (using their red and yellow flags).

Children should have responsible adult supervision at all times around coastal and inland waters and at swimming pools.

Anglers fishing along the shoreline, particularly along rocks on the shoreline, are at greatest risk during the Spring Tide where incoming waves during the high tides engulf higher than normal over rocks.

Anglers should not turn their back to the sea and should be vigilant and cautious of the wave action at all times while fishing.

Boaters, paddlers, sail boarders and anyone launching any kind of craft onto water should wear their life-jackets at all times while on water and carry easily accessible safety equipment – red distress flares, communications cellphone or VHF radio with fully charged batteries in water tight plastic sleeves, a waterproof torch, highly visible neon coloured clothing, a referee whistle worn around the neck, a silver emergency foil blanket, and let a responsible person know your time of departure, your exact intended route and your estimated return time, stick to your plans and check in with the responsible person on your safe return. (If you are overdue the responsible person should raise the alarm without hesitation).



TO REPORT A SEA RESCUE EMERGENCY DIAL 112 FROM A CELLPHONE

SMS 32287 with your name and a message of support for our Sea Rescue crew



Tags: [rip](#) [Current](#)

[« PREVIOUS POST](#)

[»](#)

[NEXT POST »](#)

3 Responses to “SPRING TIDE RIP CURRENT WARNING:”

1. [diana bosman](#)

23. Dec. 2014 at 14:08 #

Thank you will repost

[Reply](#)

2. [Jerry thomas](#)

12. Jan. 2015 at 23:07 #

Can you share the original graphic? Or better yet can you steer me to the original artist? I live in S. Costa Rica and we have no lifeguards on hundreds of miles of beaches, I want to modify the graphic so that one side is in local colloquial Spanish and the other in English, print a couple hundred aluminum signs and post up and down the coast. My personal service project..

[Reply](#)

o [Paula](#)

15. Jan. 2015 at 08:40 #

Hi Jerry

I've e-mailed the graphic through to you. Shout if you didn't get it. We hope it helps in saving lives your side.

[Reply](#)

Leave a Reply

Name (required)

Email (will not be published) (Required)

Website URL Website

Notify me of follow-up comments by email.

Notify me of new posts by email.

Subscribe to our Newsletter

Your name

Email address

Select Station

Select...

Archives

Select Month

Photos on flickr

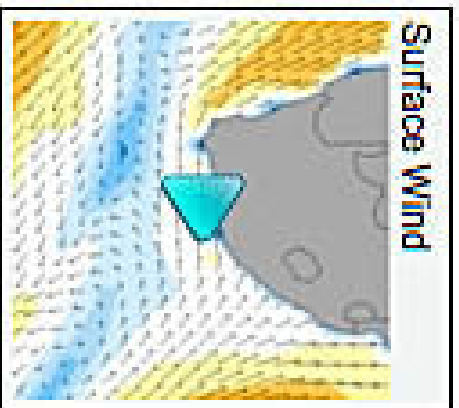
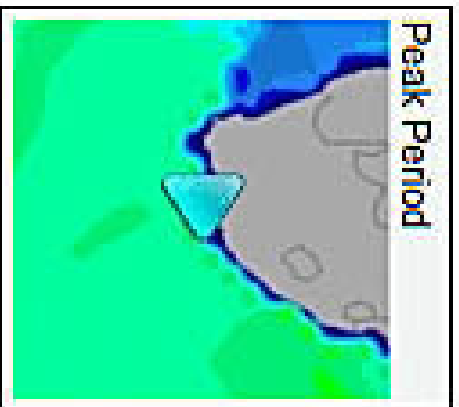
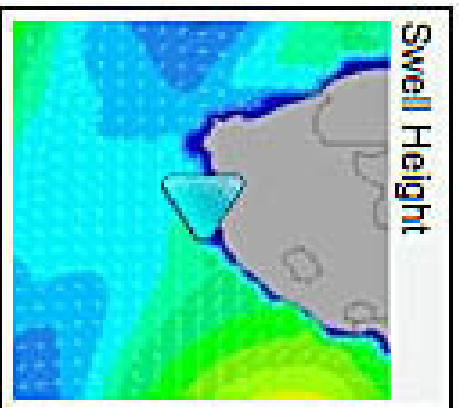


NSRI Training Academy



Ocean Watch

WAVESCAPPE OCEAN WATCH



Our Platinum Partners

Platinum membership is an exclusive opportunity. Participation is limited to ten partners at any one time. Membership is seen as a long term partnership and brand investment over 5 years.



© 2015 nsri.org.za. All Rights Reserved. Siemap, Archives.