Press Release

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Atlantic Coast Beaches: A Guide to Ripples, Dunes, and Other Natural Features of the Seashore

William J. Neal, Orrin H. Pilkey, and Joseph T. Kelley

272 pages • 6 x 9
174 black-and-white photographs • 34 figures • glossary • index
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At first glance, the beach may appear to be an endless, flat, monotone landscape meant only for swimming, snoozing, or working on your tan. Upon closer inspection, though, the beach reveals that it has myriad treasures for the curious to locate, such as ephemeral beach ripples decorating the sand, traces of miniature organisms inscribed on dunes, and armored mudballs. Atlantic Coast Beaches, from Maine to Florida, are full of amazing features formed by the interactions between tides, currents, bedrock, weather, beach critters, and much more.

Written for a general audience, *Atlantic Coast Beaches: A Guide to Ripples, Dunes, and Other Natural Features of the Seashore* covers everything, from microscopic nematodes to the potentially cataclysmic changes occurring along the coastline due to rising sea level. Its clear writing, illustrative photographs, and instructive diagrams answer some curious questions, such as why do some sands bark and sing, how do miniature sand volcanoes form, and how do barrier islands migrate?

William J. Neal is professor emeritus and past chairman of the Department of Geology at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. As a sedimentologist he has been involved in coastal studies since the 1970s. In 1993 he received (with) Orrin H. Pilkey the American Geological Institute's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Understanding of Geology. Orrin H. Pilkey and Joseph T. Kelley are co-authors.

Atlantic Coast Beaches: A Guide to Ripples, Dunes, and Other Natural Features of the Seashore is available from bookstores or directly from Mountain Press Publishing Company at 800-234-5308 or www.mountain-press.com.