



SOUTH PADRE ISLAND
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City Shoreline Department Monitoring the Beach

South Padre Island, TX, May 29, 2025: The Shoreline Department is currently monitoring the beach and has observed small tar balls in some areas along the shoreline. It is common to see tar balls washing up onto the shore along the Texas Gulf coast during this time of year. Tar is a natural occurrence caused by oil that seeps from the floor in the Gulf of America. This happens seasonally and is typically due to increased temperature, currents, and tidal influences.

The Texas General Land Office's Oil Spill Division and the US Coast Guard are aware and are monitoring the situation. The Shoreline Department and other City entities are working closely alongside them.

If you come in contact with tar, washing the area with dish soap or baby oil is an effective way to remove it. Property owners choosing to set up tar cleaning stations should do so without impacting the beach.