Cape Hatteras, NC

Want to learn more?

The U.S. Lighthouse Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to education and structural preservation. Visit their website at https://uslhs.org to see pictures, learn about tours, and become a member.

QLT Spotlight

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Lighthouse Word Search

A	U	T	C	L	A	C	I	T	U	A	N	H	E
I	V	K	E	E	P	E	R	U	O	I	E	E	D
L	U	E	T	A	E	S	T	N	A	S	L	P	U
L	I	G	H	T	H	O	U	S	E	E	E	R	C
U	I	E	B	E	A	C	O	N	S	E	I	E	A
M	P	R	E	E	F	E	E	S	T	E	G	S	T
I	I	C	R	T	S	N	E	L	I	N	V	E	I
N	I	C	I	S	E	V	M	E	L	S	U	R	O
A	E	S	T	R	I	P	E	S	C	P	S	V	N
T	T	N	N	A	L	I	R	I	C	E	I	A	E
E	S	E	N	T	I	N	E	L	G	R	G	T	E
N	O	I	T	A	G	I	V	A	N	N	N	I	A
S	T	L	M	A	R	I	T	I	M	E	A	O	I
I	O	H	E	P	E	T	A	A	C	I	L	N	T

LIGHTHOUSE	VESSEL	PRESERVATION
MARITIME	REEF	BEACON
SIGNAL	NAUTICAL	SENTINEL
EDUCATION	STRIPES	KEEPER
ILLUMINATE	NAVIGATION	LENS

Wordsearch created with https://thewordsearch.com

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A WELCOMING SIGHT

Heading to the coast for some summertime fun? Keep an eye out for one of the many lighthouses dotting our country's shorelines. Spanning many different shapes and sizes, their bright lights and fog horns at one time served as a guide for vessels to safely negotiate dangerous shores and have been in existence for centuries. There are currently about 700 lighthouses in the United States—more than in any other country—and they can be found on both coasts as well as on many lakes.

Although the maritime role of lighthouses has diminished due to modern technological advances like GPS (Global Positioning Systems), these unique structures will always have a treasured place in American history as a welcoming sight for seafarers.

Landmarks with History

Today lighthouses, also known as beacons, are mostly beautiful pieces of architecture for us to admire, but there was a time when they played a very important role in sea travel. The tall towers contained bright lights and fog horns and were strategically placed at crucial routes or dangerous areas along the water, such as the entrance to harbors or bays or an area with dangerous rocks. The beacons served to warn mariners of hazards that could bring harm and help safely guide them in and out of harbors. The various lights and sounds would communicate one of three messages:

1. Stay away!
2. Danger, beware!
3. Come this way!

Lighthouses comprise a variety of colors and patterns, designed to set them apart from their surroundings and other lighthouses while helping sailors easily recognize the area's geographical features.

For a long time lighthouses were maintained by keepers, who typically lived either in the lighthouse itself or in a nearby house. They were responsible for maintenance and care as well as manning the lights and fog horns, and if needed, responding to emergencies. In the 19th century, lighthouse keeping became one of the first U.S. government jobs available to women.

Lighthouses were so important to nautical travel that on August 7, 1789, Congress passed the Lighthouse Act, the first public works program undertaken by the new federal government. This act provided federal support for lighthouses, beacons, buoys, and public piers. It was one of the first actions of the American government, passed even before Congress established its own salary!

Today lighthouses are maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard. While they are now generally run by machines and remote monitoring instead of live-in caretakers, they are still considered important navigational aids.

August 7 is **National Light House Day**

Did You Know?

Fun Facts about U.S. Lighthouses

The first

> Boston

The most expensive

> California

The oldest existing

> New Jersey

The newest

> South Carolina

The tallest

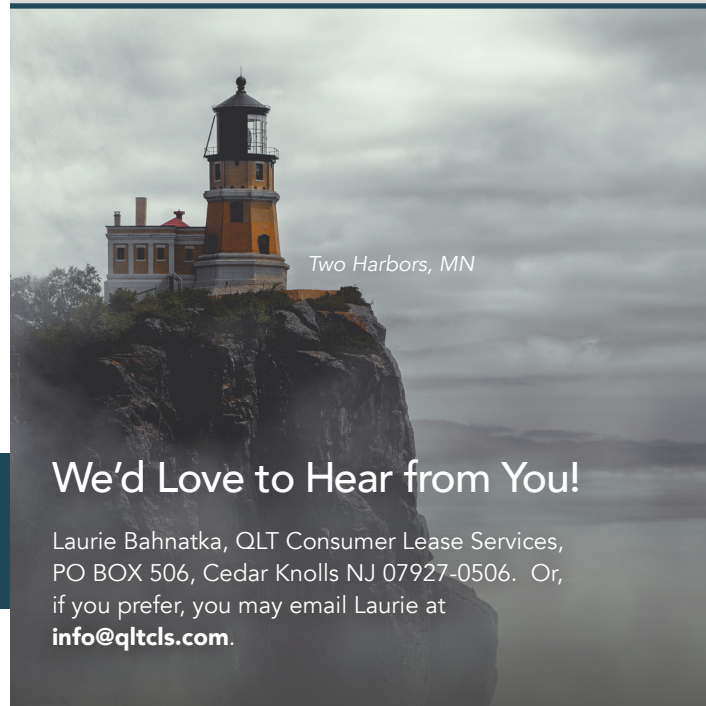
> North Carolina

State with the most

> Michigan

First to use electricity

> New York



We'd Love to Hear from You!

Laurie Bahnatka, QLT Consumer Lease Services, PO BOX 506, Cedar Knolls NJ 07927-0506. Or, if you prefer, you may email Laurie at **info@qltcls.com**.