We think that Twitter is a great way to receive critical information on what can be rapidly changing situations on Hat Island.

We plan to use Twitter to send out information on:
- Power outages
- Land Slides
- Storm Updates
- *Elsie M II* changes
- Ferry Schedule changes

There are two ways to get Twitter updates (*Tweets*) from us. You can receive them on your PC, but that’s pretty much the same as e-mail and relies on the fact that you check your e-mail regularly.

A better way is via your text message enabled cell phone. That way you’ll get our *Tweets* in real time.

We don’t want to talk down to anyone, so if you are technically savvy there is no need to read this, just go sign up to follow us @ *Hatislandinfo* on Twitter via text message on your cell phone.

But if you’re like a lot of us baby boomers you’ll need a bit of help wading through all this new jargon.

Here’s the basic steps:

1. Make sure that your cell phone is capable of receiving text messages and that your cell phone service has that function in your calling plan. You may have to go to your cell phone service provider for help.
2. Go to [www.Twitter.com](http://www.Twitter.com) on your PC. If you have a cell phone but not a PC you can go to the local library and they will help you.
3. Once on Twitter.com follow the “New to Twitter” link in the upper right corner of their home page. Fill in the requested information and simply follow the instructions on how to set up a profile. Once your profile is active you’ll need to set up text messaging. Follow the “Get Twitter on your Phone” link and follow the on screen instructions. You can even block incoming *Tweets* between certain hours so you don’t get bothered when you don’t want to hear from us. To activate this you’ll have to send a text message to the number 40404 with the word GO in the message.
4. That’s it!

You’re not going to hear from us on Twitter unless there is something important that we need to tell you. E-mail will still be our preferred method of delivering ongoing information about life on Hat Island and of course it’s our preferred method of delivering your Viewpoint to you each month. Just remember that the only way we know that you’ve changed e-mail addresses is if you tell us.