

Collier County Coastal Zone Management

PUBLIC SERVICES DIVISION ADMINISTRATION

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SEA TURTLE SEASON PREPARATIONS

Preparations for sea turtle season are being made by staff in the Coastal Zone Management and Parks & Recreation Departments. Sea turtle season begins May 1 and concludes Oct. 31, 2007.

Parks & Recreation Sea Turtle staff mailed sea turtle informational packets earlier this month to coastal homeowners and condominium associations as well as to property management companies. Informational packets are intended to help encourage the protection of sea turtles.



The Coastal Zone Management team is tilling several beach locations including Hideaway, South Marco Beach Access, Vanderbilt Beach, the north area of Pelican Bay, north end of Delnor Wiggins State Park, City of Naples beaches from Doctors Pass to 21st Avenue South and the Parkshore beach area including Clam Pass Park. The tilling loosens the sand to aid sea turtles digging their nests. Parks & Recreation's sea turtle experts are working closely with Coastal Zone Management to monitor the public beaches.

The week of April 22, staff will be tilling the Parkshore beach area as mentioned above.

So far during 2007, the County has recorded 23 strandings or sea turtle deaths, which is slightly improved compared to 2006, in which there were 107 sea turtle strandings and deaths.

The Public Services Division and Coastal Zone Management Department are developing and implementing a long-term healthy beach program.

Media members may contact Camden Smith for interviews at (239) 530-5326.