

**Vero Beach Lifeguard Association
Monthly Beach Report
For
Jaycee Park
Humiston Park
South Beach Park**

February 2017



**Our Mission:
To promote lifeguarding and water safety in Vero
Beach and the surrounding communities**

**Email: VeroBeachLA@Yahoo.com
Website: www.VBLA.org**

STATISTICS	
Total Park Attendance	67,739
Preventative Actions	1362
Minor Medicals	23
Major Medicals	2
Rescues	2
Average Water Temperature	68
Beach Erosion	Minimal
Stinging Marine Life	Moderate

General Conditions

Crowds flocked to Vero's beaches in the month of January. Parking was at a premium as people from all over the world arrived to enjoy our beaches. There was plenty of vehicle traffic along AIA and Ocean Drive as people searched for parking spaces; South Beach and JayCee Beach Parks were inundated with cars parking on the grass and where ever they found space. Although some days brought rain and windy conditions, beach goers came to the beach anyway. Persistent southeast and northeast winds have smoothed out the dune ledge running along the shoreline to an even plain. Dune and boardwalk construction is almost completed at Conn, JayCee and Humiston Beach Parks erasing many of the effects of Hurricane Matthew which hit our shores in October 2106. Lifeguards were very busy with medical calls and answering questions from the public. Attendance, medical calls, preventative actions and rescues increased from January's numbers. Lifeguards rescued 2 swimmers from rip currents in the month of February. All swimmers are advised to pay close attention to beach condition signs and flags, swim near lifeguard towers and avoid swimming during non-guarded beach hours.

Areas of Progress

The City of Vero Beach, with help from the VBLA, have been proactive about beach safety by funding the lifeguard department and equipping each tower with an ATV to respond faster to emergencies inside and outside the beach parks. In addition, signs have been posted along A1A and other streets near the beach to inform the public of the location of our guarded beaches.

Areas of Concern

It is a goal of the VBLA to educate everyone who comes to the beaches of Vero. Even though conditions may seem pleasant and inviting, beach patrons must realize that our ocean can be a wild and unforgiving place. Lifeguards recommend that everyone who visits the beach read the condition signs posted at each lifeguard tower, know the meaning of the condition flags that are flying and ask questions of our lifeguards to determine if venturing out into the water is prudent. In addition, many individuals and families are on the beach far from a guarded area and/or in the water after lifeguards leave at 5pm. VBLA recommends that the City of Vero Beach extends lifeguard hours to 7pm to address this safety issue.

Key

Park Attendance: includes areas immediately north and south of each park

Preventative Actions: stopping potential incidents before they occur

Minor Medicals: a medical incident which is treated on-site by lifeguard/EMT personnel

Major Medicals: a medical incident that required Emergency Medical Services

About VBLA

This report is furnished by the Vero Beach Lifeguard Association, a non-profit, 501C3 organization. Its mission is to promote water safety and lifeguarding in Vero Beach and the surrounding communities. Contact us at VeroBeachLA@Yahoo.com or (908)797-8725. Visit us at www.VBLA.org. Donations are appreciated. Monies raised are used to purchase equipment, supplies, staffing and training for the lifeguards from the city of Vero Beach. Please send donations to: VBLA, 1351 White Heron Lane, Vero Beach, FL 32963.