

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

July 2015



Mission:

To promote water safety and lifeguarding in Vero Beach and the surrounding communities

Email: VeroBeachLA@Yahoo.com

Website: www.VBLA.org

STATISTICS	
Total Park Attendance	60425
Preventative Actions	1735
Minor Medicals	39
Major Medicals	0
Rescues	1
Average Water Temperature	80
Beach Erosion	Minimal
Stinging Marine Life	Moderate

General Conditions

Ocean temperatures are averaging 80 degrees, however we are experiencing some upwelling which is common this time of year. Upwelling is a process in which deep, cold, nutrient-rich water rises to the surface causing temperatures to drop as much as 5-8 degrees. Sea turtle nesting is in full swing. Yearly beach attendance is up by 5% (20,000 patrons) compared to same time last year. Many vacationers and locals are visiting our guarded beaches at South Beach, Humiston and Jaycee Parks. Normal frequency of jellyfish stings (moon jellyfish) and shark sightings (spinner sharks and black tip reef sharks) have been reported. Lifeguards rescued 1 swimmer from rip currents in the month of July bringing the total number of rescues in 2015 to 28. All swimmers are advised to pay close attention to beach condition flags, swim near lifeguard towers and avoid swimming during non-guarded beach hours.

Areas of Concern

Snorkelers and SCUBA divers are required to swim with dive flags. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission requires the flags for safety reasons; boats may not be able to see people in the water without the presence of the flags. The VBLA is working with Vero Beach officials and Indian River County's coastal engineering department to maintain the prefabricated erosion prevention reef (PEP) buoys which mark the artificial reef at central beach. Many individuals and families are on the beach and in the water after lifeguards leave at 5pm. VBLA encourages patrons to swim at a guarded beach during lifeguard hours and to understand the potential life threatening conditions. It is illegal to bring dogs on the beach anywhere in the City of Vero Beach excluding service dogs. Service dogs are required to be on a leash, wear a vest and have proper service dog documentation. Owners are bringing their dogs on the beach causing health concerns for beach patrons and a threat to sea turtle nests. Beach grooming is discontinued during turtle season.

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.