

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

August 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	45657
Preventative Actions	1320
Minor Medicals	29
Major Medicals	3
Rescues	1
Average Water Temperature	82
Beach Erosion	Moderate
Stinging Marine Life	Moderate

General Conditions

Ocean temperatures are averaging 82 degrees. Pods of mullet and the tarpon which feed on the mullet are everywhere. Sea turtle nests continue to hatch. August is usually a slow time at the beach for lifeguards as afternoon thunderstorms pop up and attendance subsides. Tropical storm Erika caused some beach erosion and brought in some sea lice. What we call "sea lice", a misnomer, are actually microscopic larvae of thimble jellyfish which contain the same nematocysts (stinging cells) as the adult jellyfish. Lifeguards rescued 1 swimmer from rip currents in the month of August bringing the total number of rescues in 2015 to 29. 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

A swimmer may have lost his life while swimming approximately one quarter mile south of Humiston Park, just north of Riomar Point. When lifeguards arrived, CPR was being performed on the 81 year old man who was in critical

condition. Guards took over CPR and paramedics arrived soon afterward. The condition of the man is unknown. VBLA has always stressed that the public should swim at or near one of the three guarded beaches the City of Vero Beach provides. The average time it takes for a person to drown is between 20 and 60 seconds. In the event of an emergency, the greater the distance lifeguards have to run decreases the likelihood of a successful outcome. Many individuals and families are on the beach, far from a guarded area and/or 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.

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.