

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

September 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 | 42662 |
| Preventative Actions | 918 |
| Minor Medicals | 77 |
| Major Medicals | 6 |
| Rescues | 5 |
| Average Water Temperature | 84 |
| Beach Erosion | Moderate |
| Stinging Marine Life | Heavy |

General Conditions

Ocean temperatures are averaging 84 degrees. Pods of mullet, the tarpon which feed on the mullet and larger predatory fish are everywhere. September beach attendance was similar to August but September saw many more jellyfish stings, major medicals and water rescues. Vero Beach lifeguards rescued 5 swimmers from rip currents in the month of September bringing the total number of rescues in 2015 to 34. The number of jellyfish stings that lifeguards treated tripled from the previous month. Lifeguards were involved in 5 major medical emergencies, 1 which may have resulted in loss of life. 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. Central Beach, an unguarded beach from The Driftwood Inn to Vero Beach Hotel and Spa had 4 confirmed "Good Samaritan" rescues; a non-lifeguard who enters the water and saves a distressed swimmer. VBLA continues to stress 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.