

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

**September 2016**



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

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Website: [www.VBLA.org](http://www.VBLA.org)**

STATISTICS	
Total Park Attendance	40,860
Preventative Actions	1351
Minor Medicals	18
Major Medicals	1
Rescues	3
Average Water Temperature	80
Beach Erosion	Minimal
Stinging Marine Life	Moderate

### **General Conditions**

Slightly cooler temperatures and the “off season” have resulted in fewer people at the beach. Humid conditions have made the beach a pleasant escape from the weather, however, thunderstorms and rain continued to plague the beach by the afternoon. Bait fish, tarpon and manatees have been a frequent sight just off shore. Sea turtle hatchings have been numerous. Large surf has created a substantial drop off (the sudden increase in water depth) at most beaches. There were 3 rip current rescues in September bringing the number of rip current rescues in 2016 to 23. Most minor medical calls have been for jellyfish stings and abrasions. Most major medical calls have been for heat related injuries. 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**

Sea turtle hatchlings have been spotted on numerous occasions during daylight hours. If you encounter a struggling hatchling during daylight hours please bring it to a lifeguard tower. Lifeguards will contact Sea Turtle Research. When hatchlings emerge from the sand they may get confused by lights from dwellings and travel inland rather than to the ocean. If you live on the beach, please comply with light pollution ordinances. A severe drop off of up to 5 feet has been created at most beaches. The elderly and parents with young children should pay close attention to the drop off hazard.

Many individuals and families are on the beach far from a guarded area and/or in the water after lifeguards leave at 5pm. The City of Vero Beach should provide additional ATV's for lifeguards and extend lifeguard hours to 7pm to address these safety issues.

## **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](mailto:VeroBeachLA@Yahoo.com) or (908)797-8725. Visit us at [www.VBLA.org](http://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.