

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

January 2018



**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	40,430
Preventative Actions	735
Minor Medicals	8
Major Medicals	0
Rescues	0
Average Water Temperature	70
Beach Erosion	Fluctuating
Stinging Marine Life	Moderate

General Conditions

Colder temperatures and windy conditions kept most people off the beach for much of January. There were no reported rip current rescues or major medical emergencies in or outside the lifeguarded parks. Water temperatures are slowly rising into the low 70's. "Shore break" occurs when waves crash on the shoreline in a few inches of water and a "drop off" is formed when the water depth quickly increases after entering the water. These two conditions are common at our beach. Swimmers should be aware of these potential hazards before entering the water. All swimmers are advised to pay close attention to beach condition signs and flags, swim near lifeguard towers and avoid swimming during non-guarded hours.

Areas of Progress

The City of Vero Beach is restoring the protective dune at Conn and JC beaches. The Humiston protective dune is scheduled to be restored as well. All dune restoration is scheduled to be completed by March 1st, the start of turtle nesting season.

Areas of Concern

With a heavy shore break along our beaches, some swimmers turn their backs on the large, crashing waves. Serious injury can result using this technique. VBLA recommends swimmers avoid the water during heavy shore break but if you must enter the water, dive or duck under the breaking waves, arms first to avoid head, neck or back trauma. As beach attendance grows, more and more people are outside the guarded areas posing a challenge for lifeguards. Dog owners continue to bring dogs on the beach violating City ordinances. The blue recycle bins have not been placed back on the beach since Hurricane Irma.

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.