

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

April 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	77356
Preventative Actions	1336
Minor Medicals	59
Major Medicals	7
Rescues	10
Average Water Temperature	76
Beach Erosion	Minimal
Stinging Marine Life	Moderate

General Conditions

Ocean temperatures are averaging in the mid to upper 70's. Sea turtle nesting is on the increase. Monthly attendance continues to be strong with nearly 80,000 patrons visiting our guarded beaches at South Beach, Humiston and JayCee Parks. There were fewer reported Portuguese Man-O-War stings this month. Shark sightings remain steady; spinner sharks and black tip reef sharks being the most prevalent. Lifeguards rescued 10 swimmers from rip currents in the month of April bringing the total number of rescues in 2015 to 17. 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

The VBLA is working with Vero Beach officials and Indian River County's coastal engineering department to install and maintain the prefabricated erosion prevention reef (PEP) buoys which mark this artificial reef at central beach. VBLA hopes to have the buoys installed as soon as possible. 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 and Indian River County 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 a health concern for beach patrons and a threat to sea turtle nests. VBLA has submitted 8 suggestions to the City of Vero Beach for its comprehensive plan which addresses some concerns and potential problems at our beaches.

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.