

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

March 2014



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	82583*
Preventative Actions	1568
Minor Medicals	35
Major Medicals	2
Rescues	5
Missing Persons	2
Average Water Temperature	72
Rip Currents	Moderate
Beach Erosion	Minimal
Stinging Marine Life	Moderate

General Conditions

*March 2014 beach attendance sets a record with the highest attendance of any month since VBLA has been keeping records (October 2011). Beaches have been busy with tourists, spring breakers and some locals. We estimate 70-80% of patrons were from out-of-town; lots of Northeasterners, French Canadians and Germans. Fishing at South Beach Park continues to be very popular. Rip Currents were sporadic. Most rip current rescues were performed on tourists who are unaware of the hazard. 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

Lifeguards are under utilized by Police and Fire Rescue. Public safety issues and medical emergencies continue to occur on or near the beach without lifeguards being incorporated in the response effort. With attendance at an

all time high, the beach north of Humiston Park (Costa d Este to The Village Spires) continues to be unguarded. This area is the heart of Central Beach where the vast majority of beach goers are hotel guests and tourists. Every effort should be made to establish a lifeguard tower at Sexton Plaza and Conn Beach. It is highly recommended by the United States Lifesaving Association that beaches have overlapping fields of vision by lifeguards. At the present time, Vero's beaches do not. Allowing lifeguard officers to use their ATV to establish a temporary post at critical locations and at treacherous areas may be a temporary solution.

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.