

M A R C H 1 , 2 0 1 4



Town of Palm Beach Police Department

345 S. County Road • Palm Beach • Florida • 33480 • 561-838-5454

www.palmbeachpolice.com

LIGHTS OUT

SHARE THE BEACH

The federal Endangered Species Act lists all five species of sea turtles in Florida as either threatened or endangered.

Sea Turtles are protected by Florida Statute 370.12, the Marine Turtle Protection Act.

Anyone found harassing a sea turtle or interfering with the nesting process faces criminal and civil penalties.

Call the Palm Beach Police Department to report:

- Stranded Hatchlings
- Harassment of sea turtles
- Disturbance of nest
- Dead or injured sea turtles or hatchlings
- Entangled sea turtles

561-838-5454



Sea Turtles Dig the Dark

All Oceanfront property owners must ensure that their lights are not visible from the beach at anytime from March 1st until October 31st. Please shield or redirect any such lights, or simply turn them off *during this time of year*.

Town Ordinance requires all Oceanfront property owners to comply with this "Lights Out" policy to protect endangered sea turtles which nest on local beaches and the hatchlings which come from those nests. Artificial lighting confuses the sea turtle hatchlings causing them to veer off course from their intended destination directly to the Atlantic Ocean. It is believed that the resulting disorientation of sea turtle hatchlings from artificial lighting sources is a major cause in the decline of sea turtle populations worldwide. If you have been sent this reminder, the Town considers your property to be subject to the "Lights Out" ordinance.

The rule of thumb is

"WHEN IN DOUBT, TURN IT OUT."



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