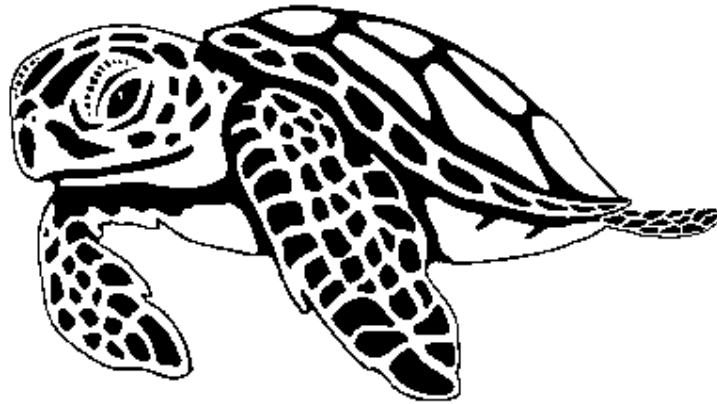


# SEA TURTLES DIG THE DARK



Welcome to Volusia County. We share this very special part of Florida with several species of threatened and endangered sea turtles.

During the sea turtle nesting season, **May 1 through October 31**, female turtles come ashore to lay their eggs in the dry sands above the tide line. About 2 months later, the baby turtles (hatchlings) emerge from their nest and instinctively race to the ocean. Lights adjacent to the beach confuse hatchlings, often leading them away from the ocean and toward a certain death.

Please help us reduce this risk and comply with local lighting regulations. **Keep balcony and porch lights turned off** during the nesting season. Also, **draw your drapes or blinds at night** if your room is lighted. These few simple steps will greatly increase the chance that baby turtles will safely reach the ocean this summer.

**Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!**

[www.volusiaseaturtles.org](http://www.volusiaseaturtles.org)