Debris left on the beach is harmful to people and wildlife. To ensure the beach is safe for everyone please:
Remove tents, volleyball nets, or other beach furniture and fill large holes before you leave the beach. These items are hazardous to both people and wildlife when left overnight.
Don’t litter – please place all trash in proper receptacles.
Recycle paper and plastics in the yellow recycling bins.
Glass containers are not permitted on the beach.
Barbeque grills are allowed on the beach, but please elevate them off the sand and remove all coals from the beach after use. Please do not bury the coals in the sand.
Do not disturb the dune system or plants, use designated beach access points.
For answers to any other beach-related question, please call:
Beach Safety (7 a.m. - 7 p.m.)
(386) 239-6416 (Greater Daytona Beach area)
(386) 424-2345 (New Smyrna Beach area)
Sheriff’s Office (after hours)
(386) 244-1777 and press 1

Did you know?

. . . All wildlife should be viewed from a distance. If an animal appears agitated or flees, please move away.
. . . When marine life washes onto the beach, it can no longer survive on its own in the ocean. Pushing it back in the water will not save it. Contact the nearest beach safety officer or lifeguard to report stranded wildlife.
. . . The Volusia County Marine Science Center in Ponce Inlet conducts sea turtle and seabird rehabilitation and offers educational programs to the public. For more information please call (386) 304-5545 or visit www.marinesciencecenter.com.

A service of Volusia County Government

Coastal wildlife seasons

Sea turtles nest at night from May - September. Baby sea turtles (hatchlings) emerge from nests from July - October. Washbacks are young sea turtles that sometimes get washed up with seaweed on the beach, watch for them between August and November.

Shore birds lay their eggs on the sand March - September. Migratory birds fly through Florida from October - April. Some of these birds take up residence in Florida for the winter. For example, the wintering piping plover, an endangered shore bird, can be seen between August and May around Ponce Inlet.

Right Whales migrate to the area to give birth offshore between December and March. Manatees live throughout Florida waterways. They may be seen in the ocean from April - September. Dolphins can be spotted year round.

Dune dwellers are plants and animals that live on the beach year round. They include snakes, beach mice, sea oats, butterflies and gopher tortoises. Gopher tortoises sometimes can be seen cooling off at the ocean’s edge.