



Town of Longboat Key Press Release

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941-316-1999

Turtle Nesting Season Begins

A reminder that from May 1 through October 31 each year, hundreds of endangered sea turtles nest along the Town of Longboat Key's beaches. In order to help safeguard the nesting females and their hatchlings, the Town has adopted Code [requirements](#) for beach-front properties, and properties whose lights can be seen from the beach. The requirements address the adverse effects of artificial light, which can distract sea turtles from making their way into the Gulf, and obstructions or other hazards, that can cause injury or disruptions to marine turtles nesting, and hatchlings making their way from the nest to Gulf waters.

Two of the primary actions to take are:

1. Turn-off or block lighting that can be visible from the beach from sun-down to sun-up (Note: Turtle-friendly bulbs and fixtures are widely available and can provide lighting that does not distract sea turtles).
2. Remove any beach furniture (i.e. chairs, umbrellas, tents, toys, etc.) or recreational equipment (i.e. paddleboards, kayaks, floatation devices, etc.) from the beach each day. Properties that front on the Gulf of Mexico that would like to be able to safely secure beach furniture/recreational equipment can contact Town Code Enforcement (email: codeenforcement@longboatkey.org or 941-316-1966) to enter into a Recreational Use Agreement for that purpose

To learn more about how to help protect nesting sea turtles and hatchlings, and future marine turtle generations, please visit the Town's [Marine Turtle Protection web page](#).


