



## IT IS SEA TURTLE NESTING TIME

Yes, it is that time of year again when we can expect to see sea turtle nests on our beach. The most common ones will be Loggerhead nests but we do get some Green and Leatherback turtle nests as well. This year the HDOA will be sponsoring 3 nests. You will receive an email notifying you when the Flagler County Turtle Patrol will be cleaning out the hatched nests, so you can watch. At times, when the nests are cleaned out live babies are found and are released by the Turtle Patrol into the ocean.

## HOW WE, AS GOOD STEWARDS, CAN HELP

1. It is against the law to touch or disturb nesting sea turtles, hatchlings, or their nests. Sea turtles are protected by Federal and State Laws.
2. All sea turtles are classified as Endangered under the Endangered Species Act.
3. Keep lights from shining onto the beach at night. Turn off or shield exterior lights, draw your drapes.  
REASON..... baby sea turtles after hatching, head for the horizon, they are oriented to the light. If your light is brighter, they will head to your light not the ocean.  
Lights disturb nesting turtles.
4. Avoid using flashlights, lantern or flash photography on the beach at night.
5. Help in beach cleanup. Sea turtles often mistake debris such as balloons, plastics, Styrofoam, tar balls and other

non-degradable materials for food. Digesting this debris causes death. Plastic bags and balloons resemble jelly fish, one of their favorite foods. They can get entangled in fishing lines, ropes and nets. PLEASE WALK WITH A BAG AND PICK UP DEBRIS ITEMS.

6. Remove all items, including beach chairs and umbrellas, from the beach at night.
7. Additional informational pamphlets will be available at 2 Camino (Southern States Office) in about 10 days.

## **Hammock Dunes Owners Association**

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