

WORKING TOGETHER

A Quarterly Newsletter of the City of Indian Rocks

APRIL/MAY/JUNE- 2022

www.indian-rocks-beach.com

Gregg Mims , City Manager

"PUBLIC WORKS" NEW NAME - SAME SERVICE

Over the years, the City has made numerous operational changes to provide for more efficiency and clarity. One designation that caused a lot of confusion with the public was the name of the "Public Services" Department. On March 1, 2022, the City of Indian Rocks Beach Public Services Department name was changed to City of Indian Rocks Beach "Public Works" Department.

The Public Works Department is responsible for:

- Building Maintenance ensuring that all city facilities are properly maintained.
- Maintenance of City parks and recreational facilities. This includes maintenance of the City's beach accesses, medians and landscaped areas throughout the City. Installation and maintenance of playgrounds, tennis/ pickleball courts, basketball courts and other leisure facilities located throughout the City.
- The Public Works Director, Dean Scharmen serves as the City's Construction Manager in the planning, design and construction of new City Facilities.
- Maintaining City streets and drainage systems in compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting requirements. This includes street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, and litter control.
- Solid Waste collection services for both commercial and residential properties. Public Works also oversees recycling programs that include residential curbside, commercial cardboard and yard waste. Four times a year, the City offers Community Cleanup events where items such as furniture or appliances are picked up for free. Outside of these scheduled events, Special Pick-ups are available for a fee.

For more information visit the City's web site: www.indian-rocks-beach.com or call 727.595.6889

Administration
727/595-2517

Library
727/596-1822

Public Works/Solid Waste
727/595-6889



KEEP IT DARK– TURN LIGHTS OUT

Nesting sea turtles seek a quiet, dark beach on which to nest. Indian Rocks beaches are lined with condominiums, private residences, businesses and hotels. Lights from these developments are problematic for nesting females and hatchlings trying to return to the sea. Sea turtle hatchlings can become easily disoriented by bright lights on the coast. Identify what lights on your property are visible from the beach. Then ... **KEEP IT LOW** – Low mounting height and low bulb wattage. Flood, spot and pole lighting are highly discouraged.

KEEP IT SHIELDED – Use full cut-off fixtures that direct light down to the ground. Shield fixtures so you cannot see the bulb, lamp or glowing lens from the beach. If the lights are not needed for safety, turn them off. Reduce interior lighting problems by applying window tint. Close opaque curtains or blinds after dark to reduce the amount of visible light reaching the beach.

KEEP IT LONG – Sea turtles are less disturbed by the long wavelengths of light, such as lights that are yellow, amber, or red.

Program the phone number for the Florida Wildlife Commission into your phone so you'll be prepared if you happen to encounter a dead, sick, stranded or injured sea turtle. It is also important to report any harassment of sea turtles or disturbance of nests.

The FWC Wildlife Alert Number is 1-888-404-3922.

SEA NESTING TURTLES

Marine turtle nesting and hatching occurs each year from **May 1st through October 31st**. Female turtles come ashore in the dark, dig a hole using their flippers, and lay 100 to 150 eggs at a time. During the course of a season, a single female lays three to eight nests. After a 45 to 70 day gestation period, hatchlings emerge from the nest at night and follow the moonlight reflecting off the Gulf. These turtles return to the beaches where they were born, sometimes decades before.

REMOVE OBSTACLES

Clear the way at the end of the day. Beach furniture, canopies, boats and toys left behind on the sand can become obstacles that block nesting and hatchling turtles. Remember, sea turtles like to nest on the mid to upper beach, to protect their nest from tide, so all those things should be completely removed from the beach **Fill in any holes dug in the sand.**

ENOUGH OF THE BALLOONS !

Helium-filled party balloons often end up in the ocean. Sea turtles and other marine life mistakenly eat the balloons and die.



CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH LIBRARY NEWS

In 2022 we welcome back our "On the Rocks" book club on the March 29th 4 PM. The book we are reading is "The Thursday Murder Club" Join us! Copies are available at the library first come first served.

Story Time will meet in the children's area for a story and a song on Wednesdays at 11:30 AM. PLEASE sign up either at the library or call 727-596-1822. Space is limited. This event is targeted for early and pre-readers, but everyone is welcome.



Little lending libraries are located at 4th St. 12th St. and 22nd St. beach access and don't forget to check out the borrowers' boat outside City Hall.

We will have summer reading for kiddos, the theme this year is "**Oceans of Possibilities**". We will be exploring all the creatures living in the oceans and learn about protecting their habitat. Summer Reading will start in June. World Oceans Day is June 8th, be sure and sign up for summer reading and prizes.

The IRB Library is open Monday - Friday 10-4 PM. We are located at 1507 Bay Palm Blvd. Phone- 727-596-1822 or email at indianrocksbeachlibrary@gmail.com.

SOLAR PANEL ARRAY POWERS CITY HALL & THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

In 2020, as part of the City of IRB commitment to conserve energy and reduce its carbon footprint, solar panels were installed and activated at the City of Indian Rocks Beach City Hall Complex and the Indian Rocks Beach Historical Museum.

"The Project was a SolarEdge Inverter configured for 43.2 kW AC with Maximum Power Point Tracking via Optimizers, 450-Watt Panels. These Panels were some of the first from that series to be produced by the manufacturer, and the highest wattage panels installed at that point and time. The System are performing very well to date having generated over 89 Megawatt Hours in 2021."





City of Indian Rocks Beach

1507 Bay Palm Boulevard
Indian Rocks Beach FL 33785

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CITY COMMISSION

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Joe McCall
Vice Mayor-Commissioner

Jude Bond
Commissioner

Denise Houseberg
Commissioner

Phillip J. Hanna
Commissioner

CITY MANAGER

Brently Gregg Mims

Upcoming EVENTS

2022 QUARTERLY EVENTS CALENDAR

4/2 & 4/3	Dawn - Dusk	City Wide Garage Sale	City Wide	
4/16	10 am- 12 pm	Easter Egg Hunt	Kolb Park	IRB HOA
4/22	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Great American Clean Up	17th Ave. County Park	Greentown Kids
4/30	11 am - 9 pm	IRB Beach Fest	17th Ave. County Park	City of IRB & IRB HOA
5/2,5/3,5/4		Community Clean Up	City Wide	City of IRB
5/5		May Mixer	Jakes Cantina	Action 2000
5/30		City Hall Closed		Memorial Day
6/14	Noon	Flag Day Ceremony	Chic-a-si Park	Rotary