

Little Gasparilla Island Loves Sea Turtles!

How Can You Help Us Protect Sea Turtles During Nesting Season?

May 1 through October 31

Please do the following...

- ◆ **Do** shield your inside and outside lights from sunset to sunrise. Use drapes, shades, or turn off lights. This includes any light visible from the beach. Turtles are attracted to light. (Flashlights, fishing lanterns, and flash photography, too!) Artificial light can disorient them.
- ◆ **Do** remove all toys, furniture, and tents from the beach and dune crest at sunset. Adult turtles can easily get tangled in furniture, and furniture is an obstacle for hatchlings as they crawl to the water.
- ◆ **Do** limit vehicles to the roads. Vehicles on the beach and dunes can crush nests and turtles.
- ◆ **Do** fill in all holes dug on the beach.
- ◆ **Do** limit fires to grill areas. Light from fires and fireworks disorient turtles.
- ◆ **Do** keep your pets off the beach.

Thank you for your help in providing a safe nesting environment for our sea turtles.

Sea Turtles on the island are protected by Charlotte County Ordinance 98-14, Florida Statute Chapter 370, and the US Endangered Species Act 1973.
Violators are subject to fines and imprisonment.