

September 2017, Coconut Telegraph

Important Information in this issue you won't want to miss!

****Kids Fishing and Marine Clinic This Saturday, September 2nd**

****International Coastal Cleanup – September, 30th 2017**

****Island Wide Garage Sale details for November 25th**

****Environmental update - great news**

****LGIFR Update**

LGPOA Meeting Labor Day weekend

The next LGPOA meeting will be Saturday, September 2nd at 2 pm in the Placida Condos meeting room by the pool. We will update members on island happenings and our progress on planning and development. We look forward to seeing you there.

****Kids Fishing and Marine Clinic**

Labor Day Weekend Kids' Marine and Fishing Clinic - Saturday, September 2nd.

This year we are combining the fishing clinic with the marine clinic. The event will start at 10 am and last until noon.

Participants that sign up in advance will receive a fishing pole and a tackle box provided by Fish Florida.

- Who? Kids of all ages are invited.
- When? 10 am - noon, to save your spot call [941-999-7788](tel:941-999-7788).
- Where? Sign in is south and east of Hideaway Condo Building "A"
- Why? Learn about knot tying, casting, fish species and the importance of environment stewardship as it relates to fish, turtles, manatees and all sea life. We will collect and observe critters from in the sea grass and have tons of FUN!

If you'd like to come and help you are more than welcome! Please contact Rhonda Olson directly at the number above or visit the volunteer portion of the website at www.lgpoa.org and your information will be forwarded to her.

Thank you to Hideaway Bay for allowing the event to take place on their grounds.

Water shoes are a must. Bug spray is a great idea. The event will happen rain or shine.

****International Coastal Cleanup – September 30, 2017**

It's that time of the year again. Islanders can come, help collect and transport items to a dumpster at Eldred's Marina.

We are looking for volunteers to remove garbage from the mangroves, the inner-island and the beach from 9 am until noon. If you want to work with others, meet at the golf cart shop at 9 am, otherwise there will be volunteers at the dumpsters to help you unload.

You can drop any full bags from 9 to noon at the golf cart shop starting on the 21st (excluding Monday). Deric will have the needed forms and bags for you to use as well.

Larger garbage will be accepted at Eldred's Marina on the 30th. **(No appliances or TVs).** Volunteers will receive a T-shirt, as long as you sign up in advance! If you can participate, please visit the volunteer section at www.lgpoa.org. Be sure to leave your name, email, dates you plan to help, and shirt sizes for you and your helpers! Any questions, please call [941-999-7788](tel:941-999-7788).

More volunteers are needed if we want to break our 3-ton record from this spring!

Wondering where to take your waste?

Electronic waste consists of TV's, computer monitors, desktop/laptop computers, keyboards, microwave ovens, printers, radios, telephones and video/stereo equipment. The transfer location and address is: 5225 Redwood Road, Placida. Here is a link to their details and hours of operation: [E-waste](#).

Appliances, yard waste and household items can be taken to Charlotte County West Mini Transfer Station located at 7070 Environmental Way near Home Depot.

Be prepared to provide the attendant with proof of your island property address when using both locations.

****Island Wide LGPOA Garage Sale!** Mark your calendars now!

The Island Wide Garage Sale will be held November 25th (the Saturday after Thanksgiving) from 9am to 1pm.

Last year's event was so much fun. The people selling sold a ton of treasures to those of us traveling the island to see what was for sale.

Anyone can have a sale, just email us your house number and any items you'd like listed or featured. (Submit by November 15th please.) You can recycle your unwanted items to someone that can use them and make some money for yourself at the same time! It's easier than hauling the items off the island, right? We will put a sign on the main sand path advertising your house number to make it easy to find.

Anyone can go to the sales as well! We will email the list of garage sales and items to POA members the week prior. They will also be posted on the island bulletin boards for everyone to see.

We hope to see you on the 26th of November! Please contact us with information regarding your sale and any questions at twrhonda@gmail.com.

****Cart Path:**

From the LGPOA Board of Directors:

We all agree that LGI is a unique place. We enjoy many things on the island that we can't see or do elsewhere. This is true not only because of the unique environment but because of the tolerance shown to each of us by our island neighbors.

There are probably less than six homeowners on the island who don't rely on the goodwill of neighboring property owners for access to their lots. With few exceptions, our "roadways" are not roads at all--rather, pathways through other people's yards. We encourage islanders and their guests to be mindful of the signs and instructions from landowners. Respect barricades and landscaping.

Island life, as we know it, depends on these access roadways. Thank you for complying and helping us educate others about this island custom so we may all continue to enjoy this privilege.

****Environmental Committee**

From Environmental Chair, Linda Soderquist:

We have exciting news from the Turtle Patrol. There were quite a few viable green sea turtle nests this season. Although many have been destroyed due to weather, coyote, armadillo and canine predation, we have the largest number of green turtle nests on the island than there have been since data collection began in the mid-1990s.

Hatching of green and loggerhead nests continues through this month. There have been quite a few instances of vehicles on the beach in the dunes and disturbing turtle nests and dune vegetation.

Sea turtles are a federally protected species. Remind other owners, renters, guests, children, grandchildren, and friends that even joyriding on the beach can disturb nests or run over hatchlings making their way to the water. Any vehicle on the beach is a violation of county ordinances and harming sea turtles is a punishable offense according to state and federal laws.

Continue with lights out at night on the beach, including flashlights (red filters only), tiki torches, cell phones, and fires.

If you encounter a sea turtle nest hatching, stop and back away from the hatchlings. Do not approach them, do not photograph or film them with artificial light. Continue to remove all beach furniture and trash from the beach daily.

Thank you and keep up the great work!

****Little Gasparilla Island Fire and Rescue (LGIFR)** (The LGPOA is not affiliated with the LGIFR, we just want to keep you up to date on all island activities.)

From Don Adams, Chief:

LGIFR Shirts

We have a new stock of LGIFR T-shirts! They will be sold at the Kids' Marine and Fishing Clinic Saturday, September 2nd from 10 until noon. Hope to see you there!

Weather Planning

Although Hurricane Harvey hit two states away, Little Gasparilla Island has also suffered from rain, winds, and high surf. That said, if Harvey had hit LGI directly, would you know how to prepare and what steps to take in the face of torrential rain, storm surge, hurricane-force winds, rip tides and possible tornadoes?

For starters, if you haven't already done so, now is the time to download the National Weather Service and Weather Bug aps which provide real time weather conditions and dangerous weather alerts direct to your mobile phone. You can also go to the NWS's web site (www.nationalweatherservice.gov) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency web site (www.ready.gov) for information on what to do before, during, and after a hurricane.

Other steps to take:

Make a plan now for how to respond to an order to evacuate. Be aware of the local hurricane evacuation route(s) and have a plan for where you can stay.

Put together a go-bag/disaster supply kit that includes a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, medications, and copies of critical information if you need to evacuate.

If you are not in an area that is advised to evacuate and you decide to stay in your home, plan for adequate supplies in case you lose power and water for several days and you are not able to leave due to flooding or blocked roads.

Make a family emergency communication plan that includes a family member or friend that is not located in Florida. That way, if all of your immediate family members lose cell service, you can keep in touch by calling the person who is not affected by the disaster.

Google "Placida Florida alerts" for sites that provide active local weather alerts.

Stay safe!



Little Gasparilla Property Owners Association Board and Committee names and emails can be found on the LGPOA website at www.lgpoa.org.

Please feel free to email me at twrhonda@gmail.com with any information you'd like circulated in the next month's Coconut Telegraph by the 25th of the month. Content is reviewed by board members for approval.

Rhonda Olson