

## August 2021, Coconut Telegraph

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### Placida Boat Ramp

From Deputy William Prummell:

The county has recently changed to a new pay by plate system for all county parking, to include the Placida Boat Ramp. As we know COVID had changed a lot of things and for a long time now it seems the kiosks at the ramp have been covered/shut down, not being utilized and paying for parking went by the wayside for many. The county has changed from pay by space at the kiosks to a pay by plate app-based program. This pay by plate app program began July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This app is popular, easy to use and utilized by other counties and municipalities. Annual/Semi-Annual County parking passes are still valid. Vehicles with the proper annual/semi-annual pass affixed to their window do not need to use the app, this pass is checked for by deputies or parking enforcement first before checking the pay by plate data from the app.



I know some islander guests who commute themselves to the island in lieu of the water taxi may use this ramp, so I wanted this information to be shared. Some vehicles parked at the ramp have been determined to belong to full time islanders as well, and those islanders need to be aware of this new system and that the parking lot is not for long term use that you are not willing to pay for. I am attempting to reach out to those full-time residents via phone or in person as well, so they may avoid a citation. If there are any further questions you may reach out to me or Charlotte County Community Services at their number below and depicted on their sign at the ramp. I have also include frequently asked questions related to this topic.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q. Can a car park in a trailer spot**

Yes

**Q. Can more than one car park in a trailer spot**

No, one space per vehicle

**Q. Can a trailer occupy a space without a tow vehicle**

Yes, however this can only be verified by paying through ParkMobile as a parking permit must be affixed to a vehicle window.

**Q. Is a disabled parking permit holder required to pay to park?**

No, parking is free for valid disabled permit holders, placards, license plate.

**Q. How can I purchase a parking pass?**

Any recreation center, pool, or the Tax Collector's Office. An application can also be downloaded from [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov) and mailed to you.

**Q. How much is a parking pass?**

3-Month \$25.75

6-Month \$36.75

Annual Pass \$53.50

### **\*\* International Coastal Cleanup**

From Director, Deric Flom:

Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> - Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

It's that time of the year again. We are looking for volunteers to remove garbage from our mangroves, the inner-island and also from the beach. Islanders can help collect and transport items to a dumpster that will be at Eldred's Marina on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup>.

All weeklong...

You can drop any full bags from 9-noon at the golf cart shop starting on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup>. I will have the forms needed, T-shirts and bags for you to use as well.

Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>...

If you want to work with others, meet at the golf cart shop at 9am on Saturday, otherwise there will be a volunteer at the dumpster to help you unload. Larger garbage will be accepted at Eldred's Marina. **(No appliances or TVs).**

Volunteers will receive a T-shirt, as long as you sign up in advance! If you can participate, please email us at [twrhonda@gmail.com](mailto:twrhonda@gmail.com). Be sure to leave your name,

email, dates you plan to help, and don't forget shirt sizes for you and your helpers! If you have any questions, please call 941-697-3820.

**\*\* Island Wide LGPOA Garage Sale!**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

The Island Wide Garage Sale will be held November 26<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 1pm, the Friday after Thanksgiving, so mark your calendars now!

Anyone can have a sale! Just email us your house number and any items you'd like listed or featured. (Submit by November 15<sup>th</sup> 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 your sale easy to find.

We will also email the list of garage sales and items to LGPOA members the week before. They will also be posted on the island bulletin boards for everyone to see.

Email us with information regarding your sale at [twrhonda@gmail.com](mailto:twrhonda@gmail.com). Please include your name, house number and a brief description of what you're selling.

**\*\* Bucket of Litter - Fun on the Fourth, Winner announced!**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

Children on the island participated in the Bucket of Litter event on the 4th of July. Each child who brought in their bucket of litter received their choice from a table of shirts and 4th of July party favors. There was a \$25 gift card drawing held before the start of the golf cart parade for everyone who participated. Maddie Davis was the winner! Congrats and thank you all who participated!

A special thank you to Dawn Bokar for donating shirts she created and Deric Flom for hauling the litter to the mainland!

**\*\* Island Loss - Thomas "Bo" E. Fraser**

On July 13th, 2021 we lost a fourteen year full time resident of our island, Bo Fraser. Pede is hosting a Celebration of Life at their home, 9020 Swinson Street, on August 5th at 2pm. Our thoughts and prayers are with him, his family and his friends.

**\*\* Note to All Volunteers**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

First and foremost, THANK YOU! Secondly, if you volunteered to help on a committee when you renewed your membership and you haven't heard from me, I will be reaching out via email over the next few weeks. Thank you, again, to all of you that responded.

## **\*\* Environmental Update**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

Turtle nests will begin hatching this month. It is imperative that lights are OUT on the beach as hatchlings can and will disorient with any artificial light. They head away from the ocean and toward any house with lighting, phone flashes/lights or flashlights.

What can you do to help this turtle hatching season?

- 1. Please turn off exterior lights (and pull shades/draw curtains) on your beach front homes.**
2. Use only red filters for flashlights or phones - there's an app for that.
3. Cover any holes that you may dig or that you see on the beach.
4. Remove all beach furniture and take away any trash.
5. Keep your dog leashed on the beach and remove your dog's excrement as well. We see a lot of dog excrement bags sitting on the beach full ---not sure why.
- 6. Do your best to help with rental houses on the island as the renters come and go quickly and re-education with each rental is important.**

### **Mosquito population on the rise!**

A mosquito's attraction to humans is very complex. Basically, mosquitoes are attracted to the carbon dioxide coming from the breath and pores of humans. In addition, some mosquito species are attracted to certain fragrances and colors. If you wish to be less attractive to mosquitoes, try using products that are unscented (i.e. hair spray, deodorant, soap, etc.) and light colored clothing. You can also try wearing commercially available, proven mosquito repellents. The most common proven repellent is N, N-diethyl-meta-toluamide or DEET. Be sure to read the entire label before using.

Charlotte County has over 37 species of mosquitoes! The county does do aerial spraying as well as ground spraying from an ATV. We have learned that the ground spraying is much more effective. When mosquito populations get out of control, call Charlotte County Mosquito Control and leave a message requesting ground spraying 941-764-4370.

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Please feel free to email me at [robinturner63@gmail.com](mailto:robinturner63@gmail.com) with any information you would like to see in the next month's Coconut Telegraph by the 25th of each month. The content is reviewed by board members for approval.

Robin Turner-Grimshaw