

September 2021, Coconut Telegraph

Keep up-to-date with “island happenings” by checking out this issue.

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Labor Day Police Protection

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

While it's never going to be perfect, we continue to believe that LGPOA funds spent on police protection during peak times does in fact pay off. We continue to work closely with officers to build the best possible relationship so that island residents and their homes are protected. Be assured that officers will be on patrol for the upcoming Labor Day weekend.

** International Coastal Cleanup

From Director, Deric Flom:

Tuesday, September 7th - Saturday, September 11th

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 11th.

All weeklong...

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

Saturday, September 11th...

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. 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 26th 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 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 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. Please include your name, house number and a brief description of what you're selling.

**** Disposing of household items off island**

If you do need to haul your household items off island, are you wondering where to dispose of them? 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.

**** Environmental Update**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

Turtle Nests are Ready to Hatch - What can we do to help?

Fill in all holes dug on the beach. Do not allow your dogs to roam please. Remove furniture at sunset, as tents and furniture become obstacles to hatchlings making their way to the water. Vehicles do not belong on the beach and can run over hatchlings.

Please do not go out on the beach with flashlights. If lights from your property can be seen on the beach, then they need to be turned off or shielded. Instinct in little hatchlings is strong, and they are guided to the water by moonlight and starlight reflecting off the water. Any artificial light will disorient them, causing them to travel away from the water, become dehydrated and die or be killed by land predators. If you rent your home, be sure your renters are aware of the local ordinances and penalties

related to sea turtles. If you need information on sea turtles and Charlotte County sea turtle ordinances, please e-mail linist@hotmail.com.

Mosquitoes! Mosquitoes! Mosquitoes!

Please contact Charlotte County Mosquito Control to report mosquito problems and request that they spray on the island. The number is 941-764-4370 and the email is mosquito.control@charlottefl.com.

**** Little Gasparilla Island Fire and Rescue (LGIFR) Update**

(The LGPOA is not affiliated with the LGIFR, we just want to keep you up to date on all island activities.)

From LGIFR Fire Chief, Bill Underhill:

Red Tide Reminder

Not a good time to be in the water as the red tide bloom is bad, the amount of death and decay (both plant and animal) in the water is producing conditions for several types of bacteria to grow. There are literally millions of fish bones along the beach, it is advisable to wear some type of shoe. Please keep your dogs close, we have had a catfish fish fin thru a dog's leg which required a trip to the vet and three other fin wounds, which were able to be removed on island. And lastly, two have tried to eat dead fish which became stuck in their upper airway.

Burning Yard Waste

We have maintained sufficient rainfall this year so we are ok to burn when the conditions are acceptable. As always if you want help getting this done give me a call I will be glad to help.

Lightning

With the thunderstorms passing by, keep in mind lightening can strike outward of 10 miles ahead of a storm. While you are out and about keep watch in all directions. If you can hear thunder you are within the strike area. If you get caught in the storm do not try to seek cover under a tree, keep moving to shelter.

Hurricane Season Reminder

The tropics are extremely active and as we just witnessed with Ida a tropical storm can become a catastrophic hurricane in a very short time. If you stay on island for a small storm have what you need to live for a few days. Medications, spare oxygen if needed in place of cpap or other breathing device, first aid kit, water, food, gas and generator for 3 days minimum. If you are asked to evacuate the island do so in a timely manner. If you are asked to leave by LGIFR, Charlotte County Fire or the Sheriff it is for a reason and not to be taken lightly.

Please feel free to email me at 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