



City of Indian Rocks Beach
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 Indian Rocks Beach FL 33785

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Joanne "Cookie" Kennedy
 Mayor Commissioner

Denise Houseberg
 Vice Mayor Commissioner

Jude Bond
 Commissioner

Joe McCall
 Commissioner

Lan Vaughan
 Commissioner

CITY MANAGER
Brently Gregg Mims

WORKING TOGETHER



A Quarterly Newsletter of the City of Indian Rocks

APRIL/MAY/JUNE- 2023

www.indian-rocks-beach.com

Gregg Mims , City Manager

FEMA - COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM

DID YOU KNOW that the City of Indian Rocks Beach participates in FEMA's Community Rating System Program (CRS)? The CRS rewards those communities that participate in flood mitigation-related activities that exceed the minimum federal National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) standards.

A flood insurance premium rate reduction of 20% is available to all residents and business owners in the City. Voluntary participation in the Community Rating System (CRS) saves flood insurance policy holders in the City more than \$597,000 in premium discounts annually.

It is important to note that a reduction in flood insurance rates is only one of the rewards communities like ours receive from undertaking the activities credited under the Community Rating System. Others include

- increased public safety
- reduction of damages to property and public infrastructure
- avoidance of economic disruption and losses



FEMA

If you don't already have flood insurance to protect your building and its contents (renters, take note!), please consider purchasing a policy today! Call your insurance agent or (877)336-2627 to find an agent, and be sure your premium includes the 20% discount. Go to the website FloodSmart.gov for more information about flooding and flood insurance, and the City of Indian Rocks Beach website at Indian-Rocks-Beach.com and click on *Flood Information*.

Administration
 727/595-2517

Library
 727/596-1822

Public Works/Solid Waste
 727/595-6889

2023 QUARTERLY EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 1st, from 9:00 a.m. ~ Noon, at Kolb Park-1507 Bay Palm Blvd
 Sponsored by Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association

Earth Day Great American Cleanup

Saturday 22nd, from 5:30 p.m. ~ 7:30 p.m. at 18th Avenue Beach Access
 Sponsored by Greentown Kids and Keep Pinellas Beautiful

City-Wide Garage Sale

Saturday, April 29th and Sunday, April 30th from dawn until dusk

MAY

Community Clean Up – May 8th ,9th, and 10th

Place your debris out on your garbage day, and yard debris on the 10th

JUNE

Flag Day

Wednesday, June 14th from Noon ~ 1:30 p.m., at Chic-A-Si Park (4th Ave. & 2nd St.)
 Sponsored by Indian Rocks Beach Rotary



Flag Day



SEA NESTING TURTLES

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.

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.



IRB LIBRARY NEWS SPRING 2023



Welcome back to our snowbirds!

[The On the Rocks Book Club meets at the library at 4 P.M.](#)

Here is the list of meeting dates.

April 25, 2023

May 30, 2023

June 27, 2023

[Story time](#) for pre-readers in the kids' area every Wednesday 11:30 AM with stories and songs.

[The IRB Library offers e-content](#) through the Libby app, if you need help using Libby give us a call or stop by for some support. You can also find "how to videos" on YouTube.

The IRB Library offers IRB library members Kanopy film downloads for your device or home TV. More information on how to access Kanopy is available at the library or online with your library card.

Download the app from your app store.

[The bookstore](#) – is full of lots of recent fiction, paperbacks, and DVDs for sale. You will find "take and leave" little lending libraries at the beach access on 4 th 12 th and 22 nd Avenues and City Hall. We are also accepting newer fiction and paperback donations.

The IRB Library continues to welcome library [volunteer](#) applications, please stop by, and say hello. Memorial bricks are available from the Friends of the Library.

Enjoy this piece of paradise we call home. Think about being on vacation in your own hometown. Stay safe. Be kind. Respect your neighbor. Keep it clean.



Trash

Please don't litter on the beach or off. There are trash cans at every beach access and every park on Indian Rocks Beach.



Golf Carts

If golf carts are on Gulf Boulevard they must have tags, thus the carts have to be made street legal with windshields, lights, and signals.



Sound

We love our sleepy beach community. Keep loud music and loud voices down while respecting your neighbors.



Speed Limit

The speed limit on Gulf Blvd within the city limits of Indian Rocks Beach is 30 mph. Please do not speed.



Beach/Turtles

IRB is home to nesting baby turtles from May 1 to Oct 31st. Fill in your holes, push down sand castles and have all items removed from the beach no later than 10pm to avoid trapping baby turtles.



Pets/Dogs on the Beach

Dogs are not allowed on Indian Rocks Beach. However, we are dog friendly and have a dog park at the Nature Preserve at 10th Ave.