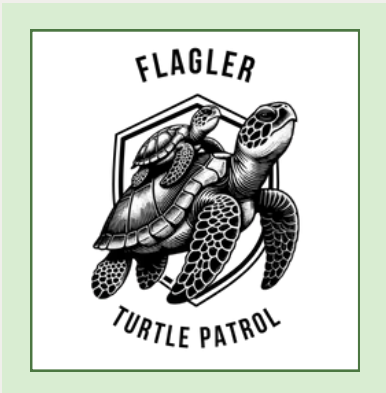




If you find a sick or injured sea turtle, please do not place it back in the water. It may need medical assistance.

*Call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 1-888-404-FWCC (888-404-3922) or, from your cell phone, dial #FWC or *FWC .*

SPRING IS IN THE AIR—AND SEA TURTLE SEASON IS NEAR!



As the days grow longer and temperatures rise, we're reminded that sea turtle nesting season is just around the corner! Starting May 1st, our sandy shores will once again welcome these incredible marine travelers as they return to nest. Our team is already preparing for another busy season, and we can't wait to work alongside our dedicated volunteers and supporters to protect these amazing creatures.

But before the season officially kicks off, we have an exciting event on the horizon! We're thrilled to invite you to the 17th Annual Turtle Fest on Saturday, April 5th, in Flagler Beach. This beloved celebration brings together conservation enthusiasts, local organizations, and Turtle Enthusiasts of all ages for a day filled with education, activities, and fun—all in support of our favorite flippers friends.

Whether you're a longtime supporter or new to the world of sea turtle conservation, Turtle Fest is a fantastic opportunity to learn, connect, and celebrate. Mark your calendars, spread the word, and stay tuned for more details as we prepare for another amazing season of protecting and preserving these gentle ocean wanderers.

🐢 See you at Turtle Fest!

Nic Poorte

Nic Poorte, Chief Operating Officer



2024 Flagler county nest totals
(by species.)

562

Loggerhead

68

Green

6

Leatherback

17th Annual Turtle Fest



2025

Flagler Beach - Veteran's Park
April 5, 2025 10 am — 4 pm

- Giant Tortoise Races • Kids Activities • Belly Dancers
- Food • Environmental Exhibits • Raffle Prizes
- Bake Sale • Artisans & Artwork • White Elephant Sale

volusiaturtlepatrol@gmail.com
www.turtlepatrol.com



**Free
Admission**

Possible release of a
rehabilitated sea turtle

LET'S TALK ABOUT TURTLE FEST



Get ready to shell-ebrate sea turtles and coastal conservation at the 17th Annual Turtle Fest on Saturday, April 5, 2025, from 10 AM to 4 PM at Veteran's Park in Flagler Beach! This beloved event, hosted by the Flagler and Volusia County Turtle Patrol teams, brings together sea turtle enthusiasts, conservation experts, and the local community for a fun-filled day of education and entertainment—all in support of these incredible marine creatures.

This year's festival is packed with exciting activities for all ages, including giant tortoise races, kids' activities, belly dancers, environmental exhibits, artisan vendors, raffle prizes, a bake sale, delicious food, and even a White Elephant Sale! Plus, attendees might witness the possible release of a rehabilitated sea turtle back into the wild, making this an unforgettable experience. Enjoy live music by The Ataraxis Experience as you explore everything Turtle Fest has to offer!

🌿 Admission is FREE, so gather your family and friends for a day of learning, fun, and conservation. Visit www.turtlepatrol.com for more details or contact volusiaturtlepatrol@gmail.com for inquiries.

Mark your calendars and help us celebrate sea turtles while making a difference in protecting their future!



How Can You Help?

- 🌿 Turn off or shield outdoor lights near the beach.
- 🌿 Close blinds or curtains at night to reduce indoor light pollution.
- 🌿 Use turtle-friendly amber LED bulbs when necessary.
- 🌿 Never use flashlights, phone lights, or flash photography on the beach at night.

Thank you for doing your part to protect these incredible creatures!

For more information, please click here: [Learn More](#)

TURTLE SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH:

Lights Out for Nesting Season!

As we prepare for sea turtle nesting season, one of the most important ways we can help is by keeping our beaches dark at night. Artificial lights can disorient nesting mothers and hatchlings, leading them away from the ocean and putting them in danger. Even lights from homes, businesses, and flashlights can create confusion, making it harder for turtles to find their way safely.

Remember, a dark beach is a safe beach for sea turtles. If you're visiting the shore after sunset, take a moment to look up and enjoy the natural glow of the moon and stars instead! Together, we can make a difference and help ensure that every hatchling has the best chance to reach the sea.