

Ocean Ridge Tidings

A monthly e-newsletter for the residents of Ocean Ridge, Florida

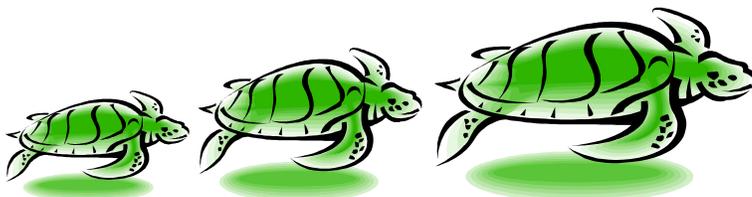
Turtle Season Begins March 1

Turtle season begins on March 1st and ends on October 31st. Throughout the season, Ocean Ridge Tidings will provide you with interesting and informative turtle updates from Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management. In addition, there are flyers and small table top signs available at town hall for residents, condo and homeowner's associations to hand out. Supplies are limited.

Three sea turtle species (the endangered green and leatherback and the threatened loggerhead) nest in Palm Beach County. Artificial lighting may deter females from nesting and can prevent hatchlings from reaching the water. Beach furniture and other obstacles on the beach may block access to suitable nesting locations. You can help sea turtles by following these tips:

- * Turn off all non-essential beachfront lighting.
- * Replace incandescent & fluorescent blubs with red or amber LED bulbs.
- * Reduce lighting visible from the beach by lowering shielding, recessing, and/or redirecting fixtures.
- * Use draperies or blinds to reduce interior lighting.
- * Be turtle friendly by removing chairs, toys, floats, and boats from the beach at night.
- * Replace wooden cabanas with lighter alternatives.

Source: Above information from the Dark Skies Save Sea Turtles' Lives postcard; PBC DERM 2010.



Phone Numbers To Know

- * Report beachfront lighting problems to Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management (561) 233-2400.
- * Report injured or dead sea turtles to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Law Enforcement at 1-888-404-FWCC (3922).
- * Report violations, harassment or poaching to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Law Enforcement at 1-888-404-FWCC (3922).

Sharing Your Pictures!



Lexie Bell & Jessica Schneider bring their daughters, Peaka Eve & Joey, to the Ocean Ridge home of the cousins' grandparents, Terry & Lucy Brown. Peaka Eve lives with her parents in Los Osos, CA and Joey lives with her parents in Cooper City, FL. This was Peaka Eve's first visit to her mother's childhood home, and there will be many more to come. Photo and caption by resident, Terry Brown.

General Information

6450 N. Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge, FL 33435

www.oceanridgeflorida.com

 @OceanRidgeFL

Town Hall

561-732-2635 (main) ♦ 561-737-8359 (fax)

561-732-ORFL (Citizen Information Line)

General Email: info@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Hall Hours: 8:30am-3:00pm

Police

Non-emergency: 561-732-8331

Emergency: 9-1-1

Public Records Hours: 8:30am-2:30pm

Town Officials

Town Manager

Kenneth Schenck

kschenck@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Clerk

Karen Hancsak

khancsak@oceanridgeflorida.com

Police Chief

Christopher T. Yannuzzi

cyannuzzi@oceanridgeflorida.com



Mayor

Geoff Pugh

Vice Mayor

Dr. Lynn Allison

Commissioners

Gail Adams Aaskov

Ed Brookes

Zoanne Hennigan

Mayor & Commissioners email

info@oceanridgeflorida.com

Sign up to receive e-newsletter and news alerts

If you would like to receive the e-newsletter, news alerts, and other information emailed to you from the town please send an email to [Lisa Burns](mailto:Lisa.Burns@oceanridgeflorida.com) at Lburns@oceanridgeflorida.com with your name and email address. [Privacy Policy](#).

Numbers to Know

EMERGENCY

Police, Fire, Ambulance 911

NON-EMERGENCY

Ocean Ridge Police Dept. 561-732-8331

Boynton Beach Fire Dept. 561-742-6600

TOWN HALL

Building Dept., Town Clerk, Town Mgr. 561-732-2635

Fax 561-737-8359

OTHERS

Abuse Hotline 800-962-2873

Animal Control 561-233-1200

Beach Conditions 561-966-6600

Boynton Beach City Hall 561-742-6000

Boynton Beach Water Dept. 561-742-6300

Clarke Environmental Services 800-203-6485

Comcast 800-266-2278

Declare Domicile 561-355-2962

Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) 561-245-2118

Dept. of Motor Vehicles (DMV) 561-681-6333

Elder Affairs 866-882-2991

FEMA 800-621-3362

FL Dept. of Transportation (DOT) 866-374-3368

Florida Fish & Wildlife Comm. 888-404-FWCC

Florida Power & Light (FPL) 561-697-8000

Marriage Licenses & Ceremonies 561-355-2986

Oceanfront Park Beach Conditions 561-742-6775

Oceanfront Park Events/Weddings 561-742-6240

Palm Beach County Building Dept. 561-233-5100

Palm Beach County EOC 561-712-6400

Palm Beach County Health Dept 561-840-4500

Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation 561-966-6600

Palm Beach County Property Appraiser 561-355-3230

Palm Beach County Tax Collector 561-355-2266

Republic Services (trash collection) 561-478-9590

So. FL Water Management 561-686-8800

Solid Waste Authority 561-640-4000

Supervisor of Elections 561-656-6200

Tides 561-742-6776

CLIP AND SAVE!



March Calendar of Events

- 2-Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup from 8-10:15am at Oceanfront Park
- 2-Briny Breezes Woodcrafters Show & Sale from 9am to 1pm in Community Center
- 4-Regular Town Commission Meeting at 6pm in chambers
- 5-Code Enforcement Hearing at 10am in chambers (tentative)
- 6-Book Club Meeting at 5:45pm in community room
- 8-Drop off donations for Rummage Sale between 12pm-5pm in Town Hall
- 9-Garden Club Rummage Sale from 8am—12pm in Town Hall
- 17– St. Patrick’s Day
- 19-Town of Briny Breezes is 50 Years Old! Happy Birthday!
- 23– In conjunction with the Delray Twilight Festival there will be a bike ride that will go through our town on A1A from 8AM-Noon. The Palm 100 Marathon runners, who will be using the sidewalk, will be running through town between 9AM—2PM.
- 30-SeaAngels Beach Cleanup from 8:00am to 10:30am at Ocean Inlet Park
- 31-Easter Sunday. For Sunrise Services info at Oceanfront Park go to page 13.



Agendas, minutes, and updates to the calendar are available on the town’s website and will be posted as they become available.

Recipe: Irish Soda Bread

Servings: 16 Prep: 15 mins, Total time: 1 hour 15 mins

Recipe: kraftfoods.com

Ingredients:

3-1/4 cups flour

1/3 cup plus 1tbsp sugar, divided

1 tsp baking powder

1 tsp salt

1/2 cup cold butter, cut up

1-1/3 cups buttermilk

1/2 cup currants



Heat oven at 350 F. Mix flour, 1/3 cup sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt in a large bowl. Cut in butter with pastry blender or 2 knives until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add buttermilk and currants; stir just until moistened.

Place dough on lightly floured surface; knead 10 times. Shape into 2-1/2 inch thick round. Place on baking sheet sprayed with cooking spray. Cut deep 1/2 inch “X” in the top of dough; sprinkle with remaining sugar.

Bake 1 hour or until golden brown. Remove from baking sheet to wire rack; cool completely before cutting into wedges.



Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Chief Christopher T. Yannuzzi

Criminal Activity

Here is a listing of the crimes/suspicious activity reported to ORPD in **February 2013** for both Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes:

<u>Type of Incident</u>	<u>Report Date</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Synopsis</u>
Battery/Domestic Violence and Violation of No Contact Orders	02/04/13	4:27 PM	5600 blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Boyfriend/girlfriend argument becomes violent. Boyfriend arrested. This was the 3rd arrest in as many weeks for the male.
Identity Theft	02/12/13	10/20/12-02/12/13	6800 blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Following theft of Passport in NY, unknown persons withdrew \$25,000 from bank account.
Violation of Town Code/ Vacation Rentals	02/15/13	9:34 AM	6000 blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Investigation on-going regarding numerous short-term home rentals for less than 30-days.
Burglary	02/16/13	02/15/13 5:00PM—02/16/13 9:00 AM	Oceanfront Park 6415 N. Ocean Blvd.	Unknown person forced entry into Life Guard stand and stole a City of Boynton radio.
Burglary	02/21/13	02/18/13 5:00PM—02/21/13 10:00 AM	6500 blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Unknown person entered open garage / storage area and removed golf clubs.
Identity Theft	02/22/13	02/21/13 3:00PM—02/22/13 9:25 PM	5500 blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Persons unknown made fraudulent charges to victim's credit card.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered / Arrest Made	02/23/13	3:57 PM	5000 blk Old Ocean Blvd.	Victim reported vehicle stolen. Description provided to local agencies. Vehicle located by Boca Raton Police within an hour and driver arrested.
Stalking / Arrest made	02/27/13	02/24/13 9:00 AM - 02/27/13 5:37 PM	100 blk Ruthmary Ave., Briny Breezes	Former boyfriend continued to harass victim via telephone calls & messages.
Burglary	02/28/13	3:50 PM	100 blk Hudson Ave.	Couple approached by 2 males indicating they were doing work for the Cable Co. While being distracted, 3rd male entered home and stole items. Three Hispanic males fled in a red SUV.

Free Document Shredding

Frequent readers of this Newsletter are aware of the often listed crimes of Identity Theft and Fraud that are reported monthly. Some of these cases are the result of paperwork being improperly disposed of that falls into the hands of criminals. In an effort to make sure that old documents (i. e.: bank statements & checks, bills, credit cards & receipts, etc.) are properly destroyed, the Police Department has made arrangements with CINTAS Document Management for free document shredding on Friday, April 19th from 9:00 AM—12 Noon. This will take place in the rear parking lot of Town Hall.

The date was selected in conjunction with the Federal Income Tax deadline date of April 15th. This will allow an opportunity for residents to discard older, unnecessary personal documents while filing away items from 2012.

This service is for Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes residents ONLY. The amount of paperwork per household is limited to the equivalent of 3 office storage boxes of personal documents.

The event is on a first-come, first-served basis and no pre-registration is required.

Vehicular Traffic Increasing

As a result of last year's closure of Lantana's Ocean Ave. Bridge, we are experiencing our first "Season" with increased traffic along A1A. The Ocean Ridge Police Department has responded to an unusually high number of crashes over the past few months and this bridge is scheduled to remain closed until November 2013. Unfortunately, we will soon be facing the impact of a second bridge closure; the Flagler Bridge in Palm Beach.

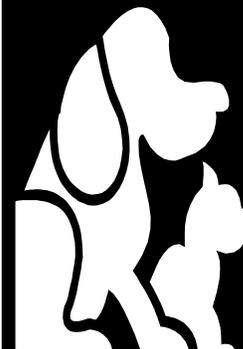
For boaters, the work in and around these bridges has and will cause additional issues. You may also experience delays due to the rescheduling of the opening of these and other drawbridges to accommodate the increased vehicular traffic.

In addition to the traffic issues created by these bridge closures, during the month of March there are several bicycle/running events passing thru Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes along A1A. Check the listing in this Newsletter for specific dates and times on page 3 under calendar of events.

REMEMBER: Please be careful and walk, run, bike & drive SAFELY!

Pet Owners:

For your animal's safety and the safety of your neighbors, please remember to secure your pets by a collar and leash as you walk them around the town and especially on Old Ocean Blvd. where pedestrian traffic is heavy. Thank you.



**Lost or Found A Pet?
Call 561-732-8331 to
report a
lost or found pet.**

“Safe Boating” Opportunities

The Ocean Ridge Police Department has partnered with the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary to offer residents Safe Boating Classes and/or free Vessel Safety Checks.

Safe Boating Classes are available for a nominal fee. These one day classes will satisfy the Florida Department of Natural Resources boating requirements. A Florida Fish & Wildlife Safe Boaters I. D. Card is mailed upon completion, and a certificate is presented at the end of class. Topics include Navigation, Trailing, Anchoring, Safety, Line-handling, Seamanship, Laws, and Docking.

The courtesy Vessel Safety Check (VSC) is performed at your boat by a certified Vessel Examiner, and usually takes up to 30 minutes depending upon the size of your boat. Boats that pass the examination are awarded a distinctive VSC Decal that alerts the Coast Guard, Harbor Patrol, and Fish & Wildlife, and other law-enforcement agencies that your boat was found to be in full compliance with all Federal and State boating laws.

Why have your boat examined? In a word—safety! You are left with the peace of mind that your boat meets minimum safety standards and that—in an emergency—you will have the necessary equipment to save lives and summon help. Additionally, you will avoid substantial fines should you ever be boarded by law enforcement and found to be in violation. Finally, your insurance rates may be lowered—check with your agent.

More info is available through the Coast Guard Auxiliary at 561-715-6061 or 561-818-7905.

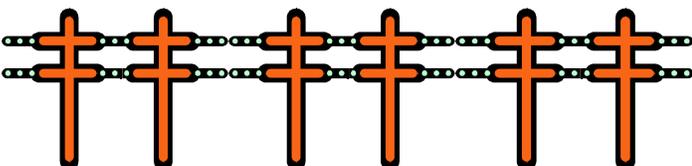


FPL: Power and Street Light Outages

Did you know that it is easy to report a power outage or a street light that is out in your neighborhood? To report an outage or to get updates on an outage, call 1-800-4OUTAGE (800-468-8243). You may also dial this number to report any hazardous conditions. To report street light issue, simply click on this [link](#) and fill out the information or go to [fpl.com](#). You will receive a confirmation email and updates from FPL.

City of Boynton Beach Meter Migration Project

The City of Boynton Beach will embark on a water meter reading improvement project that involves replacing electronic transmitters on each of the meters so that the City of Boynton Beach will be able to access the meter reading information via a cell tower link instead of driving through the neighborhood. The City of Boynton Beach has contracted with Line-Tec and they will be in Ocean Ridge as early as Monday, March 18th to do work on the project. (Information provided from The City of Boynton Beach)



How Do I Protect The Information On My Smartphone?



FLORIDA FUSION CENTER

Multi-State Information Sharing & Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) Monthly Security Tips Newsletter

Brief #: 13-049

Date: 02/22/2013

Document Type:

BOLO

Brief

Criminal Indices Check

Situational Awareness

Request for Information

February 2013

Volume 8, Issue 2

How Do I Protect the information on My Smartphone?

From the Desk of William F. Pelgrin, Chair

We've come to depend on our smartphones so heavily it is hard to remember what we did before we had them. If you have a smartphone, you now carry a fully functional computer in your pocket or purse. That's a tremendous amount of information at your fingertips! Therefore, it is paramount that you safeguard the smartphone.

Common Risks for Smartphones

Take a moment to consider each of these areas:

- **Loss of device and information theft.** Smartphones are small and can easily be lost or stolen. Unauthorized users may access your accounts, address lists, photos, and more to scam, harm or embarrass you or your friends; they may leverage stored passwords to access your bank and credit card accounts, steal your money or make credit card charges; gain access to sensitive material, and more.
- **Social Engineering.** A common mobile threat is social engineering. Whether via text message, image, or application to download, an incoming communication may be an attempt to gain access to your information. A current example consists of a text message that comes from an unknown number, telling you that if you click on the link provided, you'll have access to thousands of free ringtones. If this sounds too good to be true, that's because it is. The link is in fact a malicious link. Clicking on it will compromise the security of your smartphone.
- **TMI (Too Much Information).** Guidelines for protecting privacy, safety, and reputation when sharing via computers also apply when sharing via smartphones. Mobile devices enable instantaneous capturing, posting, and distribution of images, videos, and information. They may also broadcast location information.
- **Public Wi-Fi.** Smartphones are susceptible to malware and hacking when leveraging unsecured public networks.
- **Bluetooth and Near Field Communications (NFC).** Bluetooth is a wireless network technology that uses short-wave radio transmissions to transmit voice and data. NFC allows for smartphones to communicate with each other by simply touching another smartphone, or being in proximity to another smartphone with NFC capabilities or a NFC device. Risks with using NFC and Bluetooth include eavesdropping, through which the cyber-criminal can intercept data transmission, such as credit card numbers. NFC also has the risk of transferring viruses or other malware from one NFC-enabled device to another.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement
P.O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489
(850) 410-7645
Page 1 of 3

Revised 10/2012

Simple Steps to Protect Your Smartphone:

1. **Update the operating system.** Smartphones are computing devices that need to be updated. Updates often provide you with enhanced functionality and enriched features, as well as fixes to critical security vulnerabilities. Your smartphone manufacturer should notify you whenever an update is available.
2. **Use of security software is a must.** As the smartphone market is increasing, so too is the amount of malware designed to attack smartphones. The software security solutions that are available for desktops and laptops are not as widely available for smartphones. A key protection is to use mobile security software and keep it up-to-date. Many of these programs can also locate a missing or stolen phone, will back up your data, and even remotely wipe all data from the phone if it is reported stolen.
3. **Password-protect your device.** Enable strong password protection on your device and include a timeout requiring authentication after a period of inactivity. Secure the smartphone with a *unique* password – not the default one it came with. Do not share your password with others.
4. **Think before you click, download, forward, or open.** Before responding, registering, downloading or providing information, get the facts. No matter how tempting the text, image, or application is, if the download isn't from a legitimate app store or the site of a trusted company, don't engage with the message.
5. **Understand the terms of use.** Some applications claim extensive rights to accessing and leveraging your personal information. If the app requires more access to your account and/or device than is needed to run the service, do not continue. In addition, be aware that terms can change over time. Review your terms of use often.
6. **Be cautious with public Wi-Fi.** Many smartphone users use free Wi-Fi hotspots to access data (and keep their phone plan costs down). There are numerous threats associated with Wi-Fi hotspots. To be safe, avoid logging into accounts, especially financial accounts, when using public wireless networks.
7. **Disable Bluetooth and Near Field Communication (NFC) capabilities when not in use.** Capabilities such as Bluetooth and NFC can provide ease and convenience in using your smartphone. They can also provide an easy way for a nearby, unauthorized user to gain access to your data. Turn these features off when they are not required.
8. **Enable encryption.** Enabling encryption on your smartphone is one of the best ways to safeguard information stored on the device, thwarting unauthorized access.
9. **Securely dispose of your device.** With the constant changes and upgrades in the smartphone market, many are upgrading their devices on a regular basis. It is important that you wipe the information from your smartphone before disposal. Additionally, make sure any SD cards are removed and erased. If you are not redeploying the SIM card to another device, then make sure your personal information stored on the SIM card is erased or destroyed.

For More Information:

For additional information about securing mobile devices, please utilize the following resources:

- **About.com 14 Ways to Find a Stolen or Lost iPhone:** <http://ipod.about.com/od/iphonetroubleshooting/tp/14-Ways-To-Find-A-Lost-Or-Stolen-Iphone.htm>
- **FTC – How to Dispose Your Mobile Device Securely:** <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0200-disposing-your-mobile-device>
- **University of Northern Colorado:** <http://www.unco.edu/cybersecurity/students/mobile.html>
- **US-CERT – Cyber Threats to Mobile Phones:** http://www.us-cert.gov/reading_room/cyber_threats_to_mobile_phones.pdf
- **Sophos – Android Tool:** <http://www.sophos.com/androidsecurity>

- **Microsoft – Secure Your Smartphone:** <http://www.microsoft.com/security/online-privacy/mobile-phone-safety.aspx>

The information contained in the above links is provided by the MS-ISAC for informational purposes only. The MS-ISAC does not warrant the accuracy of the information contained in the above links or commit to issue updates or corrections to the information. The MS-ISAC is not responsible for any damages resulting from use of or reliance on the information. The information provided in the Monthly Security Tips Newsletters is intended to increase the security awareness of an organization's end users and to help them behave in a more secure manner within their work environment. While some of the tips may relate to maintaining a home computer, the increased awareness is intended to help improve the organization's overall cyber security posture. This is especially critical if employees access their work network from their home computer. Organizations have permission and are encouraged to brand and redistribute this newsletter in whole for educational, non-commercial purposes.

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INTERNET SECURITY

Ocean Ridge Lecture Series

It has been suggested that beginning next Fall, the Town of Ocean Ridge should offer its residents a monthly one-hour program of entertainment. This could consist of lectures or entertainment such as music or comedy. The program would be on a fixed schedule such as 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month. It will be free. It would be held at Town Hall. There will be no food or beverages allowed.



There are hundreds of possible subjects to be heard such as the history of the first Indians in Florida, the establishment of our community, the plants, animals, and ship wrecks off of our coast, history of the Indian Wars, new findings in astronomy and other fields of science, art appreciation, and music appreciation.

The purpose of this article is to determine whether there is support for this concept. You are requested to answer the following information in an email to the contact information below:

1. Would you attend and support such a program?
2. What kind of topics and subjects would you like to see and hear?
3. Can you speak or perform or can you put us in touch with someone that can?
4. Would you like to volunteer to serve with others to select the subjects and find speakers?

The first program would likely be in October 2013 and continue through March or April 2014 with the exception of December 2013. Please respond with the answer to the above questions and any feedback to Rob Weisblut at rweisblut@yahoo.com or 561-276-5657.

March's Regular Town Commission Meeting Action Summary

The following list is actions taken at the March 4, 2013 meeting:

- 1. Approved the Regular Town Commission Meeting minutes of Feb. 4, 2013**
- 2. Approved Resolution No. 2013-01; Supporting a Ban on Texting While Driving to be forwarded to the State of Florida and Palm Beach County Legislation**
- 3. Approved a Land Development Permit for Construction of Single Family Home with Pool/Deck at 35 Hersey Drive contingent on DEP approval and meeting all of the Town's Zoning and Building Codes**
- 4. Directed P & Z to review the Code as it pertains to boat trailers, motorhomes, etc. visible from across a waterway (code currently requires that it be effectively screened on three sides)**
- 5. Approved and Accepted a Donation from the Ocean Ridge Garden Club and Mayor Pugh of Two Mosaic Turtle Design Boards to be located on both the north and south side of the Kiosk at Town Hall**
- 6. Approved a Request to Obstruct the Right-of-Way (through execution of a ROW Agreement) on the Town's 50' Right-of-Way located immediately south of Boynton Beach's Oceanfront Park for the planting of seagrapes and an irrigation system**
- 7. Confirmed the hiring of new Police Officer, Nùbia H. Savino**
- 8. Authorized up to \$13,500 from the Contingency Account to fund the Town Hall Pedestrian Crossing consisting of \$6,500 to Engenuity Group for Engineering Services and \$7,000 for Construction Services**
- 9. Authorized the Design and Bidding Services related to drainage improvements to the 3 cul de sacs on Inlet Cay Island to Engenuity Group in an Amount of \$12,700 from the Capital Projects Fund and also authorized the bid advertisement for the drainage improvements**
- 10. Authorized the temporary hiring of possibly 2 Dispatcher/Clerks to fill the vacant positions to be confirmed at the April 1st meeting**
- 11. Adopted Ordinance 601; Amending the Code of Ordinances at Chapter 66, Environmental Regulations by Repealing and Creating a New Article I Section 66-2; Protection of Sea Turtles on first reading**

SOUTH LAKE WORTH INLET

SAND TRAP AND CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT

Palm Beach County Inlets

- 4 inlets, 2 natural and 2 man-made.
- South Lake Worth Inlet, also called the Boynton Inlet, constructed in 1925.

Project Location

- Between the towns of Manalapan and Ocean Ridge in the Lake Worth Lagoon.

The Problem

- Sand has piled up in the man-made sand trap and navigation channels.
- The irregular rock bottom of the sand trap south of the inlet "training" wall prevents the efficient removal of sand.

The Solution

- Dredge the sand trap inside the inlet.
- Dredge the shoaled sand from the Intracoastal Waterway navigation channels and boat ramp.
- Return the beach quality sand to the beach south of the inlet.
- Remove additional rock from the sand trap, smoothing the bottom and increasing future capacity.
- Add larger rock to existing artificial reef nearby.
- Barge lesser quality sand and small rock to a deep hole in the Lake Worth Lagoon.

Project Aerial View



2013 Maintenance Project

Phase I (February – April)

- A cutterhead dredge will remove the accumulating sand in the interior sand trap and navigation channels west of the inlet.
- Sand/water mixture will travel by pipeline through the inlet, over the south jetty and along the beach into the ocean at Ocean Hammock Park.
- 54,000 cubic yards of sand from the interior sand trap, the Lake Worth Lagoon, and the Boynton Boat Club Channel will be removed and re-introduced into the coastal (beach) system.

Phase II (April – July)

- Fine sand and small rock will be mechanically dredged and barged to a deep hole in the Lake Worth Lagoon.
- Larger rock will be added to an existing artificial reef adjacent to the sand trap.



Dredged sand being discharged near shore

Project Partners

Palm Beach County, Florida Inland Navigation District, City of Boynton Beach, Florida Department of Environmental Protection



Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
Department of Environmental Resources Management
2300 North Jog Road - Fourth Floor, West Palm Beach, FL 33411-2743
Phone: 561-233-2400 <http://www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/erm/>
Look for project updates on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PBCERM>

Published February 2013

Palm Beach County

From the desk of Mayor Steven Abrams



Steven Abrams
Mayor

Palm Beach County
Board of County
Commissioners

301 N. Olive Avenue
12th Fl.
West Palm Beach,
FL 33401
561-355-2204

*

345 S. Congress Ave.
Rm. 112
Delray Beach, FL
33445

561-276-1220

*

sabrams@pbcgov.org

*

www.pbcgov.org/district4



Protecting Reefs and Marine Life

Our community relies heavily on our coastal waters in many ways, and both the public and private sectors are committed to making sure they remain pristine and protected.

The waters off the county's coastline contain world-class reefs and marine life enjoyed year round by thousands of people, especially divers, snorkelers, and fishermen.

Unfortunately, some of these sensitive shallow reefs have been severely damaged by boat anchors that crush reef habitats and kill marine life.

Consequently, the county's Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) has established the Mooring Buoy Program that allows boaters to moor vessels to buoys instead of dropping anchors on reefs.

To date, moorings have been installed in areas that feature popular shallow reefs. Current locations include offshore waters in Boca Raton (between the inlet and Spanish River Park) and in Palm Beach (between the Breakers Hotel and Mar-A-Lago).

Basically, the mooring buoy is attached to a

stainless steel pin that is installed in the ocean floor at depths ranging from 12 to 20 feet. Each buoy is designed to handle only one boat, and there is no fee, however, overnight docking is not permitted.

Buoys also provide an added safety benefit to divers by serving as reference points in case they become disoriented.

Regular maintenance is necessary that includes cleaning and inspection of parts.

The program is jointly funded both publicly and privately. The program also relies on local divers who volunteer their time in monitoring the reefs and anchor pins.

For more information on the Mooring Buoy Program, please visit ERM's [website](#).



Diver installing a stainless steel pin on the ocean floor



Vehicle tied to a mooring



Boca Patch Reef featuring diffuse ivory bush coral with a feather duster worm radiole (red)

Serving on Coastal Oceans Task Force

I was recently appointed vice chairman of the newly created Coastal Oceans Task Force (COTF), a regional initiative committed to conserving southeast Florida's coastal ocean environment. The COTF consists of representatives from numerous agencies both public and private throughout Palm Beach, Miami-Dade, Broward and Martin counties. As your representative for a major portion of Palm Beach County's coastline, I look forward to serving on this board and reporting back as the COTF progresses.



*March 31st ~ **Easter Sunrise Community Worship Service***

6:30 a.m. at Oceanfront Park

Bring a folding chair and enjoy a tropical sunrise and the ocean breeze!

A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Boynton Beach Community Caring Center. Free parking is provided for the service.

~

*A **Pancake Breakfast** on a donation basis will be served from 7:30 ~ 10 a.m. in Pratt Hall, followed by an **Easter egg hunt** at 10 a.m. in the Courtyard of First Presbyterian Church*

Easter Worship Service ~ 11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

235 SW 6TH AVENUE, (561) 732-3774
VISIT US AT www.fpcboynton.com



Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup



Join the Sand Sifters for their monthly beach cleanup!

When: First Saturday of each month

Time: Beach Cleanup sign-in at 8am ; Event ends at 10:15am

Where: Oceanfront Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd (A1A)
Just north of the Ocean Avenue bridge.
Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot.

Community Service Hours Awarded

Pre-Registration:

thereciexchange@comcast.net
or 561-734-9128

Website:

www.SandSifters.us

Sponsors:

- Sand Sifters Volunteers
- Town of Ocean Ridge
- City of Boynton Beach
- Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
- Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation Department
- Dave Wagner Realty, Coldwell Banker
- RecipeExchange.com



Sea Angels



SeaAngels are dedicated to help in cleaning up our beaches, waters and parks from the continual litter that threatens our wildlife and natural environment.

Come join the SeaAngels for a beach cleanup. We do give volunteer hours for students.

WHEN: Every last Saturday of the month

TIME: 8:00-10:30am

WHERE: 6990 N. Ocean Boulevard, Ocean Ridge

(Check in is at the picnic tables next to the snack bar)

For more information go to www.seaangels.org

or e-mail us at info@seaangels.org

Please join us so we can make a difference one piece of litter at a time.

Volunteer Opportunities

Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sand Sifters for beach cleanup!

When: First Saturday of every month. Next cleanup **April 6**

Where: Oceanfront Park, 6451 N. Ocean Blvd. On A1A, just north of the Ocean Ave. bridge in Ocean Ridge. Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot.

Time: 8-10:15am

Who: Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages.

What's provided: Free parking, bags, gloves, and refreshments available to participants only. School and community service volunteer credit forms available.

What to bring: Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.

Contact: Jeff at JeffLev02@gmail.com

Website: www.SandSifters.us



Sea Angels Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sea Angels for beach cleanup!

When: Last Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **March 30**

Where: Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N. Ocean Blvd. Check in is at the picnic tables next to the snack bar.

Time: 8-10:30am

Who: Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages. Volunteer hours awarded for students.

What to bring: Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.

Contact: info@seaangels.org

Website: www.seaangels.org

Town Hall Library

What: Shelve and organize books in the Town Library.

When: Ongoing

Where: 6450 N. Ocean Blvd. at Town Hall.

Time: Any time between 8:30am—3pm.

Who: Residents of all ages welcome. Those with library experience are encouraged to volunteer.

What's provided: School and community service volunteer credit available.

Contact: Town Hall 561-732-2635

Briny Breezes Comprehensive Plan Meeting Dates

The Town of Briny Breezes will be holding meetings in regards to their Comprehensive Plan on the following dates and time:

- * March 7 at 4pm in Community Center
- * March 14 at 4pm in Community Center
- * March 21 at 4pm in Community Center
- * March 28 at 4pm in Community Center

Please visit their [website](#) to view their Comprehensive Plan and for more meeting information.

Book Club Meeting

The Book Club will be meeting on Wednesday, April 3 at 5:45pm in the Town Hall Community Room to discuss *Black & White Sands* by Elma Napier. Residents are encouraged to join the discussion.

