



Sea Turtle Nesting Season May 1 – Oct. 31

Each summer, threatened and endangered sea turtles nest on Florida beaches, as they have done for millions of years. Two months later, tiny turtle hatchlings emerge from their sandy nest and quickly race to the ocean, using the seaward horizon as their guiding light. Tragically, any artificial light visible from the beach will lure the hatchlings inland, away from the water. Thousands of hatchlings die each year because lights along beaches were not turned off or shielded properly.

Please help sea turtles get safely to the water.

May 1 – Oct. 31, 9 p.m. to 8 a.m.:

- Shield sources of light visible from the beach
- Use amber-colored LED lights or 25-watt yellow bug lights
- Close blinds or curtains after dark, eliminating light from spilling out onto the beach
- Remove all beach furniture and equipment from the beach each night from 9 p.m. to 8 a.m.

Thank you in advance for your help ensuring the continued survival of our threatened and endangered marine turtles. If you have any questions or would like to discuss correcting lighting problems, please contact Lee County staff at 239-533-8353. For more information:

<http://www.leegov.com/dcd/es/wildlife/turtle>

