



## Golden Beach Newsletter May 2021

### Turtles return to Golden Beach!

This photo shows the first sea turtle nest of the 2021 season on beautiful Golden Beach. With turtle nests typically containing more than 100 eggs, it seems appropriate that the photo of our first nest was taken on Mother's Day.

The city of Venice publishes a guide on the simple things we can all do to minimize our impact on turtle nesting during the season, which runs through October: <https://www.venicegov.com/living/sea-turtle-lightning>.

Here are some of the recommended basics:

- Remove beach furniture, trash, and obstacles. Obstacles can trap the female turtle on her egg laying journey and/or the hatchlings on their way to the Gulf.
- Only light for safety; turn off any decorative, beach-facing and uplights during the nesting and hatchling season. Such lights are not turtle-friendly!
- For safety lighting: use red or amber LED bulbs, directed where you need it and away from the beach. (Red or amber LED bulbs are less disruptive to nesting sea turtles and hatchlings.)
- Stay away from sea turtle nests marked with yellow stakes and tape.
- Fill in holes that can trap hatchlings on their journey to the water.
- Remain quiet and observe from a distance any nesting sea turtle or hatchlings.
- NO flashlights and no strobe photos after dark please!



### And in other Golden Beach wildlife news...

Sea turtles are not our only nocturnal visitors. A Golden Beach neighbor recently captured this image of a Florida Bobcat (*Felinae rufus*) with their home security camera. An adult Bobcat is an impressive animal, weighing up to 30 pounds. Florida Bobcats are **not** considered a threat to human beings – they prey mainly on rabbits, squirrels and other small animals.



For more information on this seldom seen wildlife visitor:

<https://sciencing.com/wild-bobcats-florida-8544622.html>

### And on a less happy note

Our neighbor Shirley Levine recently lost her pet cat to a late-night coyote encounter. We are sorry for Shirley's loss, and ask that everyone be aware of the risks wild animals can pose to our pets.

**Beach Parking** Peak-season is winding down, and plenty of spots are available in the beach parking lot at most times. Happily, almost all who parked in the lot during the month of April were GBAI members or their guests, and displayed 2021 member or guest passes. During the month of April just 12 parking violation warnings or tickets were issued (down from 17 in March), with only one repeat violator.

### A Recent Incident

One afternoon recently Golden Beach residents encountered adult males sleeping in the shelter of the gazebo. Questioned by a local off-duty Venice community officer, it developed that the men were not Golden Beach residents. When asked to gather their belongings and depart, one left without commotion. Another urinated near the gazebo before leaving; the officer used our water hose to clear and clean the area.

First, a big thank you to the officer involved!

Second, please be aware that if you see a troublesome issue here in the neighborhood you can report it directly to the Venice police.

For any emergency, call 911. For all non-emergency issues, call 941-486-2444.



**Gazebo Reservations** Due to Covid restrictions, Golden Beach Associates has a moratorium on formal reservations of the easement and gazebo. The moratorium was adopted to best comply with CDC and City of Venice guidelines on public gatherings. However, members may informally gather at the gazebo and easement. The board asks that members use their own best judgment as to COVID-19 prevention measures.

**Power Outages** The neighborhood experienced multiple short brown-outs and full power outages in April. Power failures are notoriously hard on solid-state equipment, which is used throughout our homes. While Florida Power & Light engineering may be aware of these, you are encouraged to report any brown-out or failure by calling 1-800-4-OUTAGE (1-800-468-8243). To coin a modern day adage: *'the squeaky wheel gets the transformer upgrades.'*