



JUNE 20, 2007

City of Cocoa Beach "News and Views"



~ A Newsletter for the Citizens of Cocoa Beach ~
Produced independently by the City of Cocoa Beach and inserted in *The Press* as a public service



MARINE TURTLE LIGHTING "EXTRAVAGANZA" SATURDAY JUNE 23, 2007 9:00AM COCOA BEACH HOLIDAY INN

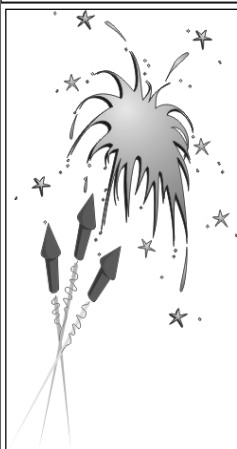
Information Provided
By Paula Bernston

Beachside residents and business owners will have the opportunity to learn about sea turtles, turtle-friendly lighting, and local lighting ordinances at the Marine Turtle Lighting Extravaganza, to be held Saturday, June 23 at the Cocoa Beach Holiday Inn, starting at 9:00am.

State and federal lighting experts will present an educational workshop on turtle-friendly lighting. In addition, there will be short presentations on the Neighbors Ensuring Sea Turtles Survival (NESTS) program and Brevard County's sea turtle lighting and homeowner giveaway programs. Code enforcement officers will be present to answer questions about lighting ordinances.

A vendor area will include fixtures, shields and window tinting; Sea Turtle Preservation Society merchandise and educational materials; and sea turtle art and photography. Author Mara Uman Hixon will be signing her children's book entitled: *Turtles Way: Loggy, Greeny, and Leather*.

This annual event is co-sponsored by the Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office and the Cocoa Beach Holiday Inn. For more information, call (321) 633-2016 ext. 52431 or email paula.berntson@brevardcounty.us.



4th of JULY FIREWORKS

Ron Jon's will be helping to sponsor the City's annual off-shore fireworks display at Shepard Park on Wednesday, July 4th.

In the interest of good family fun and safety, the public is asked to refrain from setting off personal fireworks on our beaches.

It is illegal to discharge fireworks within the Cocoa Beach city limits and law enforcement officers will be issuing citations.

Enjoy a great fireworks display at Shepard Park after it turns dark. Please keep in mind that the trash left behind costs the taxpayers to clean it all up. So, let's have some good old, "clean" and safe family fun! ~HAPPY 4TH of JULY~

VISIT YOUR CITY'S OWN WEBSITE AT
WWW.CITYOFCOCOABEACH.COM

WATER-SPRAY PARK OPENS AT COCOA BEACH AQUATIC CENTER GRAND OPENING SET FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20TH AT 11:30AM

By Jerry Stansfield, PIO/Grantwriter

There is now a new water-spray park attraction at the City's aquatic center located adjacent to the Cocoa Beach Country Club on Tom Warriner Boulevard (near the western end of Minutemen Causeway). This latest addition to the public pool complex comes complete with water cannons, clown face sprayers, umbrella drizzlers, automated floor sprinklers, and a bucket-dumper that will completely soak you from head-to-foot.

The spray park was constructed nearly a year ahead of schedule using the knowledge and expertise of City employees, like Machinist Paul Larrea, under the supervision of Darby Blanchard, Director of the City's Water Reclamation Department.

It is all part of an initial \$100,000 grant project that was awarded by the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) - Florida Department of Environmental Protection, wherein the City will be receiving \$75,000 in reimbursement funding.

City Manager Chuck Billias says he is proud of what the City employees have accomplished and credits them for being part of a "total team effort" to get the job done. A "Grand Opening" is planned for June 20th at 11:30AM to pay tribute to those employees who built the park.



Kids Gather at Base of the Bucket Dumper in Anticipation of Getting Splashed

4th of JULY BOAT PARADE 10:00AM



The Cocoa Beach Boating Club will once again be hosting the 4th of July boat parade. Parade boats will be gathering between 9:30am and 10:00am at marker 101 on the south side of State Road 520, with the parade itself beginning at 10:00am. The parade route will proceed through most of the navigable canals within the City and end at the west end of the Cocoa Beach golf course around 12:30pm.

Participants are asked to decorate their boats in Red, White, and Blue. And please – NO FIREWORKS! There will be a Captain's meeting at the Cocoa Beach Library on Wednesday, June 27th at 7:00pm to register and obtain information on the parade route. For more information, please contact Walt Blaser at 783-1207.

Watershed Education ToolKit (WET)

By Joanie Regan, Stormwater Coordinator

Want to learn more about our coastal ecosystem, Indian River Lagoon, native landscape, invasive plants, pollution prevention, and stormwater impacts and solutions? The Stormwater Utility has a "ToolKit" full of interesting publications containing local and national watershed information. These reading materials have been carefully chosen to be interesting, relevant to Cocoa Beach citizens and visitors, and full of great ideas on pollution prevention and enhancing your backyard habitat.

Indian River Lagoon, Our Natural Resource is a beautifully illustrated brochure customized for pollution prevention within Cocoa Beach. It gives some of the interesting history of our town, the effects of its urbanization and massive stormdrain system, and provides easy solutions for anyone who wants to protect our waterways.

Waterwise Florida Landscapes is a full color booklet of Florida friendly plants that conserve water. A handy chart provides the plant's size, habitat value, water requirement, salt tolerance, growth rate and whether it is native to Florida.

The **Recreation Guide to District Lands** is a portable map guide of many hard to find public lands for hiking, canoeing, boat launching, camping, birding, biking and even horseback riding. Each conservation area is well described and access clearly marked.

Other publications within the ToolKit includes invasive plant identification/control, clean boating, native gardening tips and even kid's activity books, coloring books and posters. The ToolKit will soon be available on the City's website. For more information, contact the Stormwater Utility at 868-3292 or jregan@cityofcocoa beach.com.