

Sea Turtle Season Ends With Strong Numbers for Loggerheads

By Maria Lamb

Sea Turtle nesting season in Collier County officially ended on Thursday, October 31, 2025, and according to Mary Toro, Environmental Supervisor for the

Collier County Sea Turtle program, “We had a great season; good nesting, great hatching, and no large storms.” Preliminary numbers show a total of 1,177 nests and 1,291 false crawls were



Photo by Blair Witherington, FWC

The City of Marco Island recorded 118 total loggerhead nests for 2025.

2025 Sea Turtle Nesting Season

Preliminary numbers as of Sept. 30th

LOGGERHEADS:
103,507 nests

GREEN TURTLES:
65,911 nests

LEATHERBACKS:
2,075 nests

KEMP’S RIDLEY:
10 nests



FWC Sea Turtle Nesting Season Statewide Preliminary Numbers, with a new record for leatherback turtles and the second-highest record for green sea turtles.

Sea Turtle Activity Update October 14 - 20, 2025

Beach	Nests		False Crawls		Hatched Nests		
	This Year	Last Year	This Year	Last Year	This Year	Last Year	Disoriented
Barefoot	300	222	280	187	257	108	35
Delnor Wiggins	65	55	99	75	65	21	0
Vanderbilt	274	221	205	199	236	120	38
Parkshore	217	213	272	188	188	78	57
City of Naples	268	244	224	277	230	74	56
Keewaydin Is.	558	421	735	658	463	185	0
Sea Oat Island	19	10	24	17	12	0	0
Marco Island	118	97	310	231	77	38	13
Kice and Cape Romano	188	135	213	190	68	35	0
10,000 Islands	155	129	171	134	117	61	0
Collier County Totals	2162	1747	2533	2156	1713	720	199

To report dead, injured or disoriented sea turtles on Marco call 239-289-9736 or 239-289-9687



Rotary Club of Marco Island Noontime announces

FLAGS FOR HEROES

the

TWO Inspiring Events to Honor our Heroes

NEW! SALUTE OUR HEROES Luncheon, Jan 8th and 440 Flags on Display, Feb. 14-20, 2026

INTRODUCING SALUTE OUR HEROES LUNCHEON

A Patriotic Tribute to Honor & Reflect

Thursday, January 8th | 11:00 am - 2 pm, at Fabulous All New Marco Island Yacht Club, 1400 N Collier Blvd.

Join us for this exclusive luncheon; an inspiring and memorable event, adding a moment of reflection to our 2026 FLAGS FOR HEROES campaign.



A Moving Program of Tribute



• Inspiring Keynote: Jim Lane, Vietnam Combat Veteran, shares insights on courage, service, and challenges faced on the front lines.

• Community Hero: Chris Byrne, Fire Chief Marco Island, on the daily risks and challenges faced to protect us and to save lives.

• Patriotic Music Performance: Stephanie Lorenz, internationally acclaimed Soprano, “A one in a million voice” Maestro Jack LiVigni

• Moments of Reflection: By Pastor Ed Brandt (United Church of Marco Island) and Pastor Scott Kerens (Marco Presbyterian Church).

Reserve Your Place Today! Individual Ticket: \$95 (\$45 tax-deductible) OR Hero’s Tribute VIP Table: \$2,000 (only 4 available - \$1240 tax deductible) for 8 guests & plus event program, PR and www.marcoislandrotary.org recognition to honor YOUR heroes.

Payment options and info via QR code. Questions? Joe Nolan: 215-527-8655 or nojo812@aol.com and www.marcoislandrotary.com.

Your support helps meeting critical community needs.





Opening Ceremony, Feb. 16. @ 5pm

Corner of: San Marco Rd & Sand Hill St, Marco Island