

Sea Turtle Nesting Season

Outer Banks sea turtle nesting season is May through September.

How can you help?

- Reduce lighting at night. Turn off ocean-facing lights or close drapes. Use wildlife-friendly red flashlights on the beach.
- Fill in holes and level sandcastles at the end of the day of play.
- Remove beach furniture each evening.
- Keep balloons, plastic bags, and other trash off the beach and out of the ocean.
- If you see a turtle on the beach, give it plenty of space and call the N.E.S.T. hotline. If you see a turtle at night, keep lights off and call N.E.S.T. A female that is disturbed may not lay her eggs.

N.E.S.T. Network for Endangered Sea Turtles

All species of sea turtles are protected under the Endangered Species Act. Please follow posted instructions at nests, give animals plenty of space, and allow our volunteers to help you responsibly enjoy a sea turtle sighting experience!

Contacting N.E.S.T.

- **24 hour hotline: 252-441-8622**

When to call: turtle tracks, turtles, or nest disturbance activities.

- **NESTONLINE.ORG**

Learn about our mission, our work, and how you can contribute.

- **Follow us on Facebook**

Do not report nests, turtle sightings, or other urgent items via social media.

