



May 1, 2019

Dear Bayport Residents,

Every year on May 1<sup>st</sup> we enter "turtle season". It is really turtle nesting season and Federal law dictates that the nests not be disturbed and that anything that might disorient the turtles is prohibited. The Town of Longboat Key enforces this mandate by checking the beaches nightly.

Sea turtles do not see lights in the amber range, consequently we are allowed to use special amber lights on our entry sign and center island lighting. We understand that with our center island lights amber and our street lighting reduced, it is very dark. Please drive carefully. If walking at night please use a flash light and wear reflective clothing. All white lights that could be visible on the beach must be shut off. The Town of Longboat Key fine for violating this policy is from \$250 to \$500 per day.

**If you live in a Gulf front unit it is very important that you keep your window shades or drapes closed at night.** If your lanai is not enclosed and you do not have a method of shading, it is necessary for you to use an amber bulb in any light fixtures on your lanai. Lights in Privacy Gardens are also restricted. Please contact me for details on the appropriate bulb types. Failure to follow these procedures could result in you personally receiving a citation and or fine from the Longboat Key Code Enforcement Officers.

**Additionally, it is very important that no beach furniture or other items remain on the sand portion of the beach after dark.** The Town of Longboat Key ordinances prohibit items on the beach after dark since they may trap or disorient turtles.

**All beach furniture must be moved to the dune area and stacked.**

We appreciate your cooperation in helping to save this endangered species.

Sincerely,

James R Wolf, Manager