

Dear Gulf Pines and Gulf Shore Neighbors,

The sea turtle nesting season is here! On April 27th, the first loggerhead nest of 2022 was laid on the west end of Sanibel. We are hoping to come together for the fifth year as combined neighborhoods and participate in SCCF's Adopt -A-Beach program benefitting sea turtle monitoring and research. Last year our two neighborhoods contributed \$2725.

Last year our Gulf Pines and Gulf Shores beach hosted 32 Loggerhead nests. From that group 2026 hatchlings emerged successfully. Historically, green turtles have not nested in large numbers along the Gulf coast, but two green turtle nests were laid on our beach last year with 60 hatchlings emerging.

The program's goals are simple:

1.) Promote beach stewardship by keeping the beaches clean and trash free and following beach lighting code regulations.

2.) We are trying to raise \$2 for every foot of our joint 2,340 feet of shoreline.

Funds are used solely for things like supplies, equipment and interns dedicated to sea turtle monitoring and research. Research supported by Adopt-A Beach includes evaluating the impact and lingering effects of catastrophic Red Tide Bloom on nesting females and their hatchlings. A multi-year research project evaluating the impacts of sand characteristics on water drainage rates and nest incubation temperatures, and subsequently hatch and emergence success, was launched last year and will provide guidance on the potential impacts of introduced sand on our beaches. The results will aid in the development of science-based strategies to reduce risks associated with renourishment projects.

When your request and payment are processed you will receive a receipt for your tax-free contribution and receive neighborhood email updates. If you have questions, email pam.tom.miller@gmail.com .

Your neighbors connected by nature,

Gulf Pines/Gulf Shores Adopt-A-Beach Participation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

email(s): _____

Sponsorship Amount: _____

Please make checks payable to SCCF Gulf Pines/Gulf Shores Adopt-A-Beach and mail this form and your donation to:

Kelly Sloan, PO Box 839, Sanibel, FL 33957

If you would like to donate online, please go to: <https://donorbox.org/sccf-adopt-a-beach>