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PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release [FORTMYERS BEACH]
CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS: Lovers Key State Park JUNE 2022

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STATE PARK TO OFFER GUIDED NATURE PROGRAMS IN JUNE 2022

-Lovers Key State Park to host wildlife programs and recreational activities-

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Lovers Key State Park will present weekly programs on park history, wildlife, and recreation throughout the month of **June**.

Programs are included in park admission fees of:

\$4 for vehicles with 1 individual - \$8 for vehicles 2-8 individuals - \$2 per pedestrian or cyclist.

All programs will take place at Lovers Key State Park, and registration is required for most events.

The park offers many recreational opportunities to visitors with disabilities.

For assistance or to register, contact the park office at 239-463-4588.

JUNE 2022 PROGRAMS

Wednesday, June 1st at 10:30 a.m.
Savvy Sea Turtles

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park naturalist for an introduction to sea turtles, our savvy summer residents. Learn what sea turtles like to eat, where they live, and what you can do to help keep them safe on and off the beach. Space is limited; reservations required. To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

Friday, June 3rd at 10:30 a.m.
Sea Turtle Nest Walk

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a guided sea turtle nest walk on the beach at Lovers Key. We will hike to one of our current nests and discuss the ins and outs of nesting season, including nest anatomy, threats to nests, and how you can help keep the beach safe for sea turtles during nesting season. We will not be touching the nest at any time during the walk, only observing. Space is limited; reservations required. To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

Wednesday, June 8th at 10:30 a.m.
World Oceans Day Wading Trip

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a special World Oceans Day wading trip into our seagrass flats. With a dip net in hand, you'll discover the creatures that call the seagrass their home, discuss their anatomy, diet, and unique adaptations, as well as learn how you can help protect this vital ecosystem. Participants should be prepared to spend time in the water. Space is limited; reservations are required. Visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

Saturday, June 11th at 10:30 a.m.
Walk on the Wild Side

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a guided hike along our Black Island Trail. Learn about the fascinating vegetation and wildlife that reside in our maritime hammock ecosystem, explore our native butterfly garden, and enjoy a little local history along the way. Closed toe shoes, bug spray, and water bottles are highly recommended. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register*, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

Wednesday, June 15th at 10:30 a.m.
All About Alligators

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park naturalist to learn all about our local alligators. Discover why alligators are such integral members of our Southwest Florida ecosystems, what you can do to safely co-exist with them, and how you can help protect our state reptile. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register*, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

Friday, June 17th at 10:30 a.m.
Sea Turtle Nest Walk

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a guided sea turtle nest walk on the beach at Lovers Key. We will hike to one of our current nests and discuss the ins and outs of nesting season, including nest anatomy, threats to nests, and how you can help keep the beach safe for sea turtles during nesting season. We will not be touching the nest at any time during the walk, only observing. Space is limited; reservations required. *To register*, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

Wednesday, June 22nd at 10:30 a.m.
Sensational Sharks

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for an interesting and informative lecture on sharks, the ocean's most sensational residents. Discover why these awe-inspiring elasmobranchs are often misunderstood and feared by the public, what crucial role they play in our ecosystems, and what you can do to help protect them. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register*, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

**Saturday, June 25th at 10:30 a.m.
Beach and Estuary Walk**

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a leisurely walk over the estuary and along the beach to discover the natural treasures of the Lovers Key shoreline. Learn about seashells, crustaceans, starfish, and other creatures that can be found in our waters. Participants should be prepared to spend time in the water. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register*, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

**Wednesday, June 29th at 10:30 a.m.
Munchin' Manatees**

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park naturalist for an interesting and informative lecture on our local, loveable manatees. Learn what these magnificent mammals are all about, and how you can help protect them. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register*, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

All Programs Take Place At:

**Lovers Key State Park
8700 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach, Florida**

friendsofroverskey.org

About Lovers Key State Park

Once a collection of secluded barrier islands, Lovers Key has become a premiere destination for wildlife viewing, outdoor recreation, and spectacular beachside weddings in Southwest Florida.

Previously destined to become the site of luxury condominiums, Lovers Key State Park was purchased by the state for the people of Florida so the park's natural features could be enjoyed for generations to come. The two-mile stretch of beach is popular for shelling, swimming, picnicking, fishing, and swimming, while Black Island offers five miles of trails for hiking, bicycling, and wildlife viewing. Additionally, the Welcome and Discovery Center is an educational hub for curious park goers to learn more about the wildlife, history, activities, and ecosystems at Lovers Key. Open 365 days a year, there's no better place to enjoy a slice of the real Florida than Lovers Key State Park.