

PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release: 19 September 2022

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STATE PARK TO OFFER GUIDED NATURE PROGRAMS IN OCTOBER 2022

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

FORT MYERS BEACH – The Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Lovers Key State Park will present weekly programs on park history and wildlife throughout the month of **October**. All programs will take place at Lovers Key State Park.

Space is limited for all events; reservations are required. To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

The park offers many recreational opportunities for visitors with disabilities. For help with accommodations, please contact the park office at 239-463-4588.

October Programs Include:

Monday, October 3rd at 6:00 p.m. **Sunset Meditation**

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a sunset meditation on South Beach. Connect with your senses to relax, get centered, and improve your sense of calm and peace. Both guided and quiet meditation practices will be offered. All levels welcome. The meditation will be held on the sand with no equipment provided, so please bring water and a mat, towel, chair, etc. to sit on. Space is limited; reservations required. *To register*, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.

Wednesday, October 5th 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, October 7th at 10:30 a.m.
Seashell Walk

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a shelling trip along the Lovers Key shoreline. Learn the names of the seashells you find on your walk, fun facts about the creatures who craft them, and the shelling regulations that help protect these iconic Florida treasures. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Saturday, October 8th at 10:30 a.m.
Beach Cleanup

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a beach cleanup at South Beach. Enjoy a lovely hour on the beach as you do your part to keep our state park (and planet!) clean. Participants will record the types of trash they collect, and the findings will help inform park messaging. Gloves, buckets, pickers, pencils, and data sheets will be provided. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Monday, October 10th at 5:45 p.m.
Sunset Meditation

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a sunset meditation on South Beach. Connect with your senses to relax, get centered, and improve your sense of calm and peace. Both guided and quiet meditation practices will be offered. All levels welcome. The meditation will be held on the sand with no equipment provided, so please bring water and a mat, towel, chair, etc. to sit on. Space is limited; reservations required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Wednesday, October 12th 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. Live manatees are not included in this lecture. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Friday, October 14th 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, sunscreen, bug spray, and water bottles are highly recommended. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Saturday, October 15th 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, sunscreen, bug spray, and water bottles are highly recommended. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Monday, October 17th at 5:45 p.m.
Sunset Meditation

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a sunset meditation on South Beach. Connect with your senses to relax, get centered, and improve your sense of calm and peace. Both guided and quiet meditation practices will be offered. All levels welcome. The meditation will be held on the sand with no equipment provided, so please bring water and a mat, towel, chair, etc. to sit on. Space is limited; reservations required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Tuesday, October 18th at 10:30 a.m.
Gelatinous Jellyfish

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger to discover the fascinating world of jellyfish. Learn which jellies live in Southwest Florida, what to do if you get stung, and some helpful tips on how to avoid stings altogether! Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Wednesday, October 19th at 10:30 a.m.
All About Alligators

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park naturalist to learn more about our local alligators. Learn why alligators are 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, October 21st at 10:30 a.m.
Beach and Estuary Walk

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a wildlife hike along the Lovers Key shoreline and intercoastal waters. Discover the natural treasures of both the beach and estuary ecosystems while you learn all about the seashells, crustaceans, starfish, and other creatures that can be found along the waterways. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Saturday, October 22nd at 10:30 a.m.
Seashell Walk

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a shelling trip along the Lovers Key shoreline. Learn the names of the seashells you find on your walk, fun facts about the creatures who craft them, and the shelling regulations that help protect these iconic Florida treasures. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Monday, October 24th at 5:30 p.m.
Sunset Meditation

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a sunset meditation on South Beach. Connect with your senses to relax, get centered, and improve your sense of calm and peace. Both guided and quiet meditation practices will be offered. All levels welcome. The meditation will be held on the sand with no equipment provided, so please bring water and a mat, towel, chair, etc. to sit on. Space is limited; reservations required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Tuesday, October 25th at 10:30 a.m.
Fishing Clinic

Program is free with paid park entry. Join two park naturalists to learn more about fishing in Southwest Florida. You'll discuss a variety of tackle and fresh bait rigs, discover the best places to drop a line at the park, and learn the rules and regulations for fishing in Southwest Florida. Space is limited; reservations are required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

Wednesday, October 26th 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.*

Monday, October 31st at 5:30 p.m.
Sunset Meditation

Program is free with paid park entry. Join a park ranger for a sunset meditation on South Beach. Connect with your senses to relax, get centered, and improve your sense of calm and peace. Both guided and quiet meditation practices will be offered. All levels welcome. The meditation will be held on the sand with no equipment provided, so please bring water and a mat, towel, chair, etc. to sit on. Space is limited; reservations required. *To register, visit www.LoversKey.Eventbrite.com.*

All Programs At:

Lovers Key State Park
8700 Estero Boulevard
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

