

Volunteer Form

If you would like to become a NEST Volunteer, please send the form below to:

NEST.

P.O. Box 1168
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Below is a list of NEST Volunteer Teams, please mark the team which you are interested in (check all that apply)

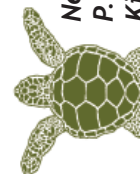
- Nest Sitters
- Rehabilitation
- Live/Dead Strandings
- Transportation
- ATV Drivers (Nest Patrols)
- Beach Action Team
- Education/Outreach
- Fundraising Activities
- Public Awareness/Publicity
- Phone Relief
- Newsletter/Publications
- Website/Listserv

For more information about things you can do to help, please call NEST (252) 441-8622 or visit our website at www.nestonline.org

Steps You Can Take to help save endangered sea turtles

Report dead or injured strandings or nests immediately, call the N.E.S.T. 24-hour hotline at: (252) 441-8622 or the NC Aquarium on Roanoke Island (252) 473-3494, Marine Mammal Stranding Network (252) 728-8762, or Dare County Central Dispatch (252) 473-3444.

- ➔ **Do not crowd or get in the way of a nesting female as she is emerging from or returning to the sea.** Do not shine any lights on or around her or she may abandon her effort to nest. **No flash photography.** Sit quietly away from her during the nesting process.
- ➔ **Turn off outside ocean-facing porch lights, inside lights, and all other lights during hatching event. No flash photography.**
- ➔ **Stay away from the head of a live turtle—they have very powerful jaws!**
- ➔ **Do not disturb nest markers, obey all signs and stay out of marked areas.**
- ➔ **Leave nest sites undisturbed.** Do not crowd, disturb, or pick up hatchlings as they make their way to the ocean, call NEST immediately.
- ➔ **Remove beach litter.** Balloons, plastic bags, foam and other non-degradable pollutants cause the deaths of many sea turtles that mistake them for food. Stack or remove beach furniture.
- ➔ **Keep pets on a leash, away from sea turtles and their nests.**
- ➔ **Daytime sandcastles, become nighttime turtle traps.** Please fill in holes and flatten all sand structures before leaving the beach.
- ➔ **Report all nesting and hatching events to the 24-hour N.E.S.T. line at (252) 441-8622.**



Network for Endangered Sea Turtles
P.O. Box 1168
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949
N.E.S.T.

N.E.S.T.

Network for Endangered Sea Turtles

*Helping Sea Turtles Survive
on the Outer Banks of
North Carolina*



**24 Hour Hotline
(252) 441-8622**

email: nest_obx@yahoo.com
www.nestonline.org

Sea Turtles on the Outer Banks

Sea turtles - Loggerheads, Greens, Kemps Ridley, Hawksbill, Leatherbacks. You may have heard the names. You may have seen them in books, on television or in the movies. Part of what makes the Outer Banks special is that all of these sea turtles are in your backyard. We need your help to ensure that these wonderful creatures remain part of the Outer Banks.

What is N.E.S.T.?

The Network for Endangered Sea Turtles (N.E.S.T.) is an all-volunteer non-profit organization of people who support the continued and enhanced livelihood of sea turtles and their habitat on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Established in 1995, the group is a state-permitted monitoring organization for sea turtle activity from the Virginia state line to Oregon Inlet.

Loggerhead Sea Turtle Hatchling



photo by Jackie Orsulak

Sea turtles are protected under the Endangered Species Act, 1973. It is illegal to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, capture, or collect sea turtle eggs, hatchlings, adults, and body parts. Violators can be prosecuted under Civil and Criminal laws and be assessed heavy penalties.

This brochure is generously sponsored by a grant from the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau.

Sea Turtle Facts



photo by Jackie Orsulak

- ➔ Sea Turtles are air-breathing reptiles.
- ➔ Loggerheads are the most common sea turtles found in North Carolina. The Outer Banks represents the northernmost limit of the Loggerhead sea turtle nesting range in the U.S.
- ➔ Their food consists of mollusks, crabs, squid.
- ➔ Weighing 250-400 pounds, adult Loggerheads can grow to more than three feet in length. Adult Leatherback sea turtles can reach the size of a VW bug.
- ➔ Nesting occurs from May through August.
- ➔ Most adult sea turtles nest every other year or every third year, laying several clutches of eggs during a nesting season.
- ➔ Average nest contains 100 ping-pong ball sized eggs.
- ➔ Nest cavities are 18-22 inches in depth.
- ➔ Incubation period of the eggs is 55-80 days.
- ➔ Hatchlings are 2 inches long.
- ➔ Only a small percentage of hatchlings survive to maturity (approximately 1 in 1000)
- ➔ Pollution, lighted beaches, loss of nesting habitat, abandoned fishing nets/gear and older nets without Turtle Excluder Devices (TED), beach furniture and poaching have all contributed to the drastic decline of sea turtles.

How Can You Help?

We need Volunteers to look for turtle nests and/or strandings; to nest sit; to assist in the rehabilitation of stranded sea turtles; to provide educational presentations and materials to residents and visitors; to help with NEST publications; and to help raise money for necessary medical expenses.

To volunteer, please call (252) 441-8622. (see volunteer form on next page)

If you would like to attend a NEST Meeting, please call the NEST line at (252) 441-8622 for more information. Visit our website at www.nestonline.org for updates on hatchings and other NEST events.

We need Resources NEST is always in need of funding to help pay for veterinary bills, supplies, and transportation costs. Often we organize fundraisers such as selling sweatshirts and t-shirts to help allay these costs. If you would like to make a tax deductible monetary donation, please use the attached form.

We need Supplies Items that are always in need are:

- ➔ Boxes of latex gloves
- ➔ Fluorescent spray paint
- ➔ Knives/Knife sharpeners
- ➔ Flashlights
- ➔ Towels
- ➔ Paper towels
- ➔ Measuring tape (flexible)
- ➔ Plastic bags and tags
- ➔ Bug Spray
- ➔ Anti-bacterial No-water Hand Cleaner
- ➔ Stamps
- ➔ White Copy Paper
- ➔ Black Landscaping Mesh & Wood Stakes
- ➔ Large Plastic Carriers



photo by Kristen Mazzarella

Donations Welcomed

Help Sea Turtles Survive on the Outer Banks....

NEST is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. All contributions to NEST are tax deductible. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please send form along with check or money order payable to:

NEST.

P.O. Box 1168
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Payment Method (payable to NEST)

_____ check _____ money order

\$ _____ Amount Enclosed

Contribution Levels

Guardian	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000
Leatherback (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500
Green (<i>Chelonia mydas</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
Loggerhead (<i>Caretta caretta</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Hawksbill (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75
Kemp's Ridley (<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
Hatchling	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
Egg	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15

NEST. is supported by monetary donations and appreciates any support you may wish to give!