

4. Never remove live shells

Sometimes the shells you find will have the living creature still inside! Check shells carefully to be sure you have no live shells, live sand dollars or live starfish. Not only are you taking something from the beach that you shouldn't, the creatures will die and then STINK!



REMEMBER:
*If somebody's home,
leave it alone!*

5. Keep off the Dunes

The dunes are the grassy sand hills between the beach and the land and are very important to the health of our beach. Please stay OFF the dunes! They are home to important plants that protect from erosion and are home to many critters (including snakes)!



6. Leave your bicycle and your dog at home

Bicycles and dogs are not allowed on the beach. Both can be dangerous for people and wildlife. Bike racks are available at beach entrances.

7. Never bring glass to the beach

Glass of any kind is not allowed on our beach. Broken glass can HURT! You can step on it and even get cut while playing in the sand.

8. Join us for a Clean Up

Every month, we hold a beach clean up to make sure our beach stays beautiful. Adults and kids of all ages are welcome to join us!



To learn more: www.cityofmarcoisland.com
We meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at
City Council Chambers. All are invited.

City of Marco Island Beach & Coastal Resources
Advisory Committee
50 Bald Eagle Drive
Marco Island, FL 34145



EIGHT WAYS YOU CAN HELP LOVE OUR BEACH!



A KID'S GUIDE to LOVING OUR BEACH!



City of Marco Island Beach & Coastal Resources
Advisory Committee

WE ALL LOVE THE BEACH

Keeping our beaches clean and safe is everyone's job!

Our beach is not just a fun place to visit and play, but home to many birds and animals that were here A LONG TIME before us! Here are some ways you can help LOVE YOUR BEACH!

1. Never, ever litter!

Littering is for losers. Leave only your footprints behind. ALL trash should be put in the trash cans or taken home with you. If you see trash on the beach, pick it up!

REMEMBER:

**Leave nothing but footprints!
If you see litter, pick it up!**



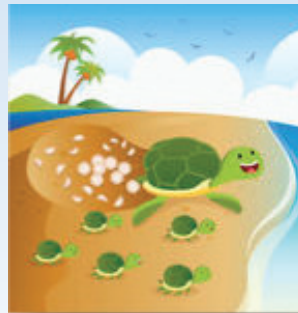
2. Share the beach with our wildlife



Our beach is home to many protected species including turtles and shorebirds that travel hundreds (sometimes thousands) of miles to nest and have “babies” on our beach! How lucky are we?

Please don't ever feed, chase or “flush” the birds. They are resting after their long flight to our beach. Always walk AROUND flocks of birds, never through, when you see them on the beach. Birds should never eat “human food.” It is bad for their tummies and can kill them.

Keep well away from marked sea turtle nests and shorebird nesting areas. They need peace and quiet when they're growing and getting ready to hatch!



REMEMBER:

**Respect ALL wildlife!
They were here first and
they are sharing their home
with us.**

3. Before you leave, level the sand



We all love playing in the sand and building sandcastles, but it is important to knock down your castles and fill in holes before you leave the beach!

Holes and obstacles are dangerous for people walking the beach and tiny baby chicks. They are even more dangerous for sea turtle hatchlings trying to make it to the gulf! Hatchlings can get stuck in holes and lose their way, if a castle is blocking their path to the water. Keep the sand flat for them!



REMEMBER:

**Take a picture, then knock it down!
Fill in your holes and
level the sand.**