



September 11, 2019

Madeira Beach Continues to Clean Up Seaweed

MADEIRA BEACH, FL – Lately storms out on the Gulf of Mexico have been stirring up and depositing a lot of seaweed on the sands of Madeira Beach from John's Pass Park in the south to Archibald Memorial Beach Park to the north.

Most people think all the seaweed should be cleared from the beach; however, several factors prohibit total removal of seaweed, including:

- The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) requires that at least 30% of the seaweed deposited on Madeira Beach must remain on the beach so it can be taken back out by the tides
- Seaweed is a food source for all kinds of creatures, from shorebirds to crabs and turtles
- The south half of Madeira Beach is seeing the most significant amount of seaweed, but it is all in the wet sand, meaning it cannot be cleared
- Recently an average of 8 to 10 cubic yards of seaweed is collected each day
- Crews have a limited window of opportunity to clean the beach, usually about 3 hours, after being given the go-ahead by turtle rescuers and before the beach starts becoming crowded with people



For more information, contact Curt Preisser, City of Madeira Beach Public Information Officer at 727-391-9951 x299 or cpreisser@madeirabeachfl.gov.

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City of Madeira Beach
City Hall
300 Municipal Drive
Madeira Beach FL 33708
www.madeirabeachfl.gov