

The Bay Watch Leg

A quarterly publication for Tampa Bay Watch partners

Winter 2020-21



ESTUARY EDVENTURES OFFERS NEW PROGRAMS

VIRTUAL EDUCATION, EXPANSION OF PUBLIC OFFERINGS, AND MORE!

Our Estuary EDventures education crew is committed building our programs, even during this unprecedented time. We are excited to offer new ways for students to explore the bay, and to expand our public education offerings!

Traveling education kits packed with educational resources have been developed for delivery to schools as an alternative to our on-site field trips and outreach visits. These educational kits include a combination of lesson plans, teacher guides, and classroom materials for hands-on activities, marine science labs, student-led experiments, and data science projects, aligning with Florida State Standards.

Two *Day on the Bay* kayak eco-tours will launch from Tampa Bay Watch in Tierra Verde on February 18 and 25 with our trained environmental educators as your guides. Participants will take to the water in our tandem kayaks as we explore the unique habitats of the bay, including winding our way through a serene mangrove tunnel.

On Thursday afternoons into the early evening throughout March, we'll offer a new **Family Field Trip series**. Our most popular school field trip activities will be available for your entire family to experience together! Look for more details on our website soon.



Did you know. . .

More than 200 species of fish are found in Tampa Bay! The most numerous fish are small baitfish. The most popular game fish in Tampa Bay are redfish, mullet, sheepshead (pictured above), snook, and spotted seatrout.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON

February 18 & 25: Day on the Bay

February 23: Virtual Microplastics Workshop

March 1: Estuary EDventures summer camp registration opens to members

March 3: Estuary EDventures summer camp registration opens to public

Thursdays in March: Family field trip offerings

March 8: Discovery Center summer camp registration opens to members

March 10: Discovery Center summer camp opens to public

March 15-19: Spring break camp in Tierra Verde

A new **Spring Break Day Camp** will be offered March 15-19, which includes a single day of hands-on marine science labs, animal encounters, estuary exploration, and sea-themed crafts and games! Camp price is \$65/day and there are 14 spots available each day for children ages 6-10. Registration is currently open online.

Whether at the Tampa Bay Watch Marine Center, at local schools, or virtually, we aim to continue our mission of creating memorable learning experiences and fostering future environmental stewards.

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- Double the summer fun with 2020 Summer Camps
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Double the fun:

SUMMER CAMP IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Camps in two locations—Tierra Verde and downtown St. Pete—promise more fun than ever!

Estuary
EDventures



Education
through
Restoration

Estuary EDventures' summer camp in Tierra Verde is a fun-filled, hands-on learning adventure focused on marine ecology. Under the guidance of our professional education staff, campers will participate in boating trips, snorkeling excursions through native habitats, and collecting

unique species inhabiting the estuary. This is an experience that your child will not want to miss!

Sessions include Sea Monkey (6-8 year-olds), Discovery (9-12 year-olds) and Ocean Expedition (13-15 year-olds).

Member registration opens March 1; general registration opens on March 3 at tampabaywatch.org.



The Tampa Bay Watch Discovery Center on the St. Pete Pier will kick off their brand new summer camp this year! All campers will spend time in the Exhibit Gallery, participate in hands-on marine science labs, snorkel, collect animals, and embark on the new classroom eco-boat.

Each week of camp is designed to promote new and exciting adventures for our most seasoned Tampa Bay Watch summer campers! Sea Squirts (6-8 year-olds) will experience Animal Exploration, "Mythbusters," and Hometown Habitats. Tarpon (9-12 year-olds) Space Invaders, Discover Diversity, and "Survivor."

Member registration opens March 8; general registration opens on March 10 at tbwdiscoverycenter.org.



Help us protect Florida's largest open-water estuary!

Giving back to the community:

CORPORATE MEMBERS



Tampa Bay Watch corporate members are active partners in our efforts to protect and restore the Tampa Bay estuary. Our unique estuarine environment helps drive the local economy, provides habitat for a variety of important wildlife, and is a primary factor in the quality of life for the region. To become a Corporate Member, [Email Nina Ardle](#), Acting Director of Development, or call 727-867-8166, x249. **We'd like to acknowledge our current corporate members:**

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 400 Beach Seafood & Tap House Alden Suites | Kennedy Investments / DAK Corporation |
| American Strategic Insurance | Konica |
| Amuni Financial, Inc | Lewis, Longman & Walker |
| Argos USA LLC | Limelight Photography |
| ARS Wealth Advisors | McNichols Company |
| Baldwin Krystyn Sherman Partners | Mosaic |
| Bloomin' Brands | Mullen Corporation |
| Calhoun International | Paradise News |
| Carmelita's Rum | Paradigm Learning |
| Catalina Marketing | Pascia & Pascia Dentistry |
| COMANCO Environmental Corp | Paul J. Skipper Inc |
| Cooper's Hawk Winery | Reef Innovations, Inc. |
| Coppertail Brewing Company | Resort Realty |
| Courtesy Valet | S.A.L.T. Payroll Consultants Inc. |
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| Directed Capital | Salt Pines |
| Diversified Telecom Services, Inc. | Sand Dunes Beach Services |
| Don Cesar | Saunders & Walker, P.A |
| Drift Local | Southpoint Financial Services |
| Electric Supply, Inc. | St. Petersburg Distillery |
| Elite Watersports | Sweetwater Brewing Co. |
| FairWarning | Tampa Bay Parrot Heads |
| Ferman Auto | Tampa Bay Pilots Association |
| Florida Info Guide | Tampa Bay Rays |
| Florida Pure Sea Salt | Tampa Bay Yacht Management |
| Full Signal Florida | TECO Energy |
| General Dynamics | Tennant Special Risk |
| Go Black Fin | TJM Properties |
| Great Bay Distributors | Tradewinds |
| Greenacre Properties, Inc. | TruGreen Commercial |
| Gulf Eagle Supply | uDream Events |
| Healthcare IQ | Wilcox Nursery & Landscape |
| Jabil | Wiss |
| Kahuna's | WRB Enterprises |
| Kahwa Coffee | Xenegrade |

Spotlight on...

CORPORATE MEMBER ELITE WATERSPORTS



A huge thanks to Elite Watersports for renewing their corporate membership through their successful season opener event **which raised \$10,998.44 for Tampa Bay Watch.** We couldn't be more appreciative of their efforts and the entire kiteboarding community for all they do to help preserve our waterways.

Pay a visit to this local business for watersports lessons, new and used gear, and more! **Elite Watersports is located at 4100 34th Street South in St. Petersburg, Florida.**



Trace This Place



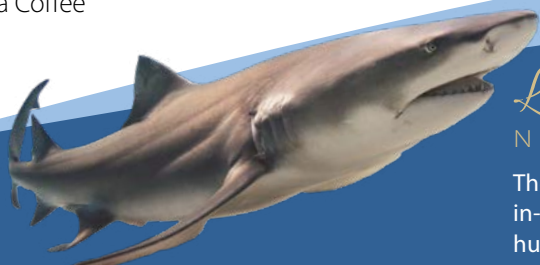
Does this place look familiar?

Be the first to name this place in an email to Rachel Arndt at rarndt@tampabaywatch.org and win a TBW ball cap!

One entry per person.



LENGTH: 8-10 FEET
ID: EASILY RECOGNIZED FOR ITS TWO, EQUALLY-SIZED DORSAL FIN
HABITAT: SUBTROPICAL SHALLOW WATER AROUND MANGROVES, BAYS, AND REEFS.



Lemon Shark

NEGAPRION BREVIROSTRIS

The yellow-brown to olive color of the lemon shark is an ideal camouflage in the sandy in-shore areas in which they prefer to forage. They are generally not considered a threat to humans. Source: floridamuseum.ufl.edu



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3000 Pinellas Bayway South
Tierra Verde, FL 33715
727.867.8166
tampabaywatch.org



2020 Program Results:

MONOFILAMENT RECYCLING

Despite the difficulties in the year 2020, our monofilament recycling program produced great results, since it is one of our valuable programs that can be managed with single volunteers.

Tampa Bay Watch maintained 208 monotubes (monofilament recycling stations) at 75 docks, piers, and parks around the bay. 59 volunteers collected and retrieved 826 miles of fishing line from the monotubes throughout Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Pasco Counties. An impressive 127 pounds of monofilament was recycled.

Thank you to the Pinellas Community Foundation for supporting our marine debris program with a 2020-21 Environmental Protection Grant! This grant will fund three more "Mono Clean-a-thons" and our important 2021 coastal cleanup.



TAMPA BAY WATCH MISSION:

Tampa Bay Watch is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Tampa Bay estuary through scientific and educational programs.



Thank you to GEORGE & ISABEL ADAMS and ESI for their sponsorship of the 2021 issues of the **Bay Watch Log!**



The Bay Watch Log is a quarterly newsletter designed to inform and educate the volunteers, members, partners, and sponsors of Tampa Bay Watch about environmental events, restoration opportunities, agency activities, and other environmental stewardship information.

Tampa Bay Watch, Inc. • 3000 Pinellas Bayway South • Tierra Verde • Florida . 33715
Tel: 727-867-8166 • Fax: 727-867-8188 • TAMPABAYWATCH.ORG