

Beach & Parks Report for 2021 SBA Annual Reports 2/15/21
By Charlene Adair, Beach & Parks Chair

I've been your Beach & Parks Chair since 2015. This led to serving on the Keep Fort Pierce Beautiful Advisory Board and eventually the Parks Advisory Committee. I coordinate over 50 volunteers to keep 9 parks and about 4 miles of beach clean and maintained – a lofty goal for sure! Our volunteers showed they are up to the challenge by working 1,592 hours in 2020 – an impressive number especially considering the pandemic! Thank you, to all volunteers who work so hard to keep our beaches and parks beautiful. You have proven our theory that “the cleaner the parks and beaches are, the cleaner citizens will keep them”.

We can always use more help, especially during the off-season months when many of our volunteers are unavailable. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call or email me – my contact information is on the website. This is a great job for those of you who enjoy the outdoors, and every hour is appreciated.

I would like to thank our Fort Pierce Public Works Department for their tremendous support. You have responded to numerous suggestions for improvement as well as reports of needed maintenance – and, they even thank us for this! They cheerfully provide 100% of our support with shirts, picker uppers, gloves, bags, and any other supplies we request. I would like to thank Mike Reals, Public Works Director, and Paul Bertram, Parks & Grounds Manager and our liaison, and others for the work that they do.

Our BlueTube program, spearheaded by the City and the Keep Fort Pierce Beautiful Advisory Board, has expanded our volunteer cleanup efforts to include all citizens, one bag at a time in our parks. These BlueTubes hold clean used bags for anyone to grab when going to the beach in order to pick up trash. You can then toss the bag in any trash can and bring more bags the next time you visit the beach.

The Keep Fort Pierce Beautiful Advisory Board wants to thank SBA for sponsoring the wrapping of another electric box at Gulfstream and Ocean. Please encourage other local businesses to sponsor a power box, and we hope that more communities will wrap boxes on or adjacent to their properties. If any of you are interested, please contact me.

Please also plan to attend the Great American Cleanup sponsored by the Keep Fort Pierce Beautiful Advisory Board on March 13th. You will find details on the City website.

The Parks Advisory Committee would like to thank all the citizens who have supported the idle speed/no wake zone at Jaycee Park. This change has been extremely successful in restoring safety and enjoyment of this prized park and has allowed many other water activities to resume.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to serve our community.