

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The Manatee County Boater's Guide contains maps and information specific to the waterways of Manatee County, emphasizing newly-posted manatee protection and boating speed zones. Many features of interest to boaters and anglers are displayed: locations of boat ramps, marinas, piers, parks and preserves accessible by water, aquatic preserves, watersport recreational areas, artificial reefs, navigational channels, and speed zones. A Resource Directory along with information on marine life and native habitats, boating and angling safety, and ways in which boaters can help protect our local waterways, are also included. This guide should not be used for navigational purposes. Instead, use nautical charts #11400 and #11420, which are available through NOAA.



Manatee County Government
 Conservation Lands Management Department
 415 10th Street West
 Bradenton, Florida 34205
 941-745-3723

www.mymanatee.org/conservation.html

BOATER'S GUIDE TO

Manatee County



Welcome to Manatee County



Manatee County is located along the west coast of Florida, south of Tampa Bay, with over 150 miles of coastline and 27 miles of white sand beaches. Mangrove forests, seagrass beds, salt marshes and mud flats are among a few of the important coastal habitats which serve the abundant bird and marine animal populations of the County. Manatee County waters provide excellent recreational boating, fishing, and wildlife viewing. Fishing has been a major industry in Manatee County for centuries. Today, both commercial and recreational fishing are important economic elements of the region. Whether visiting or living in Manatee County, you too can make a difference by doing your part in protecting our waterways, through safe and responsible boating and enhanced awareness of the region's precious natural resources.

Birds of the Bay Area

Some common birds to this region that you might see include the Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Great Egret, White Ibis, Brown Pelican, Osprey, Wood Stork, Roseate Spoonbill, and the endangered Florida Scrub Jay. The maps included in this guide highlight bird viewing opportunities such as bird hot spots, bird rookeries, and bird sanctuaries.

Loss and fragmentation of habitat is a threat to all birds and to all species of animals that inhabit the Gulf Coast Region.

Birding Tips

- Enjoy viewing bird rookeries from at least 100 yards away. These rookeries harbor nesting colonies and flocks of feeding birds. Boaters and operators of personal watercraft should slow down in order to reduce wakes in these birding areas. Large wakes resulting from higher speeds are responsible for the erosion of bird islands and mangrove areas, and the noise generated from higher speeds are disruptive to wildlife.
- Report injured seabirds that need assistance. Consult the Resource Directory of this guide for contact information.
- Pick up marine debris if you find it and don't discard any fishing line or other trash, which can be lethal to seabirds and other marine life, into the water.
- Remain quiet and move slowly to maximize bird viewing opportunities.



RESOURCE DIRECTORY

- Audubon Coastal Islands Sanctuaries** 813-623-6826
FDEP Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve 941-721-2068
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission** 888-404-3922
Law Enforcement 888-347-4556
 Manatee and marine turtle collision hotline; rescue and recovery. Also to report oil spills, fishing violations, boating accidents, and marine mammal injuries or strandings. Information also available on saltwater fishing and shellfish harvesting.
- Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services** 850-488-5471
Division of Aquaculture www.floridaaquaculture.com
 For more information on shellfish harvesting.
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute** 727-896-8626
Florida Fishing Licenses 888-347-4556
www.wildlifelicenses.com
- Florida Sea Grant Extension** 941-722-4524
- Manatee County:**
Marine Rescue (Emergency) 941-749-3500
Sheriff's Office (Report crime or incident) 941-747-3011
- Conservation Lands Mgmt. Dept.** 941-745-3723
Parks & Recreation Dept. 941-742-5823
Lake Manatee Dam/Water Treatment 941-746-3020
- Mote Marine Laboratory** 941-388-4440
 For assistance with injured marine mammals or sea turtles.
- National Marine Fisheries Service** 727-570-5301
 Southwest Regional Office, responsible for managing marine fisheries in federal waters.
- NOAA Weather Service Broadcast** 813-645-2506
 24-hour weather and marine forecast
162.55Kz/VH
- Sarasota Bay Estuary Program** 941-955-8085
Tampa Bay Estuary Program 813-893-2765
Sea Tow Marine Towing Service 800-473-2869
- U.S. Coast Guard Rescue** (Emergency) 911
 (Non-emergency) 941-794-1261
 For search and rescue assistance VHF Channel 16, Emergency Cell "CG."
- West Coast Inland Navigation District** 941-485-9402
 For information on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.
- Wildlife Inc.** 941-778-6324
 For assistance with injured birds.

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 Publication design: Patti Cross • patticross@comcast.net • www.tomcross-artist.com

BOAT RAMPS	Address	Open 24 Hours	Useable at all Tides	Boats Over 15'	Restrooms
1	Bishop Harbor	—	—	—	—
2	US Hwy 19 (limited parking)	—	—	—	—
3	63rd St. Memorial Park	—	—	—	—
4	Kingfish	•	•	•	•
5	59th St. W./Warners Bayou	•	•	•	•
6	Palmetto	•	•	•	•
7	Highland Shores	•	•	•	•
8	State Rd. 64/Bradenton River	•	•	•	•
9	Coquina North	•	—	•	•
10	Coquina South	•	•	•	•

Clean Marina Designation is given by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to marinas that meet federal and state environmental regulations as well as provide environmental education and services to boaters. For more information visit the Clean Marina website: www.floridadep.org/law

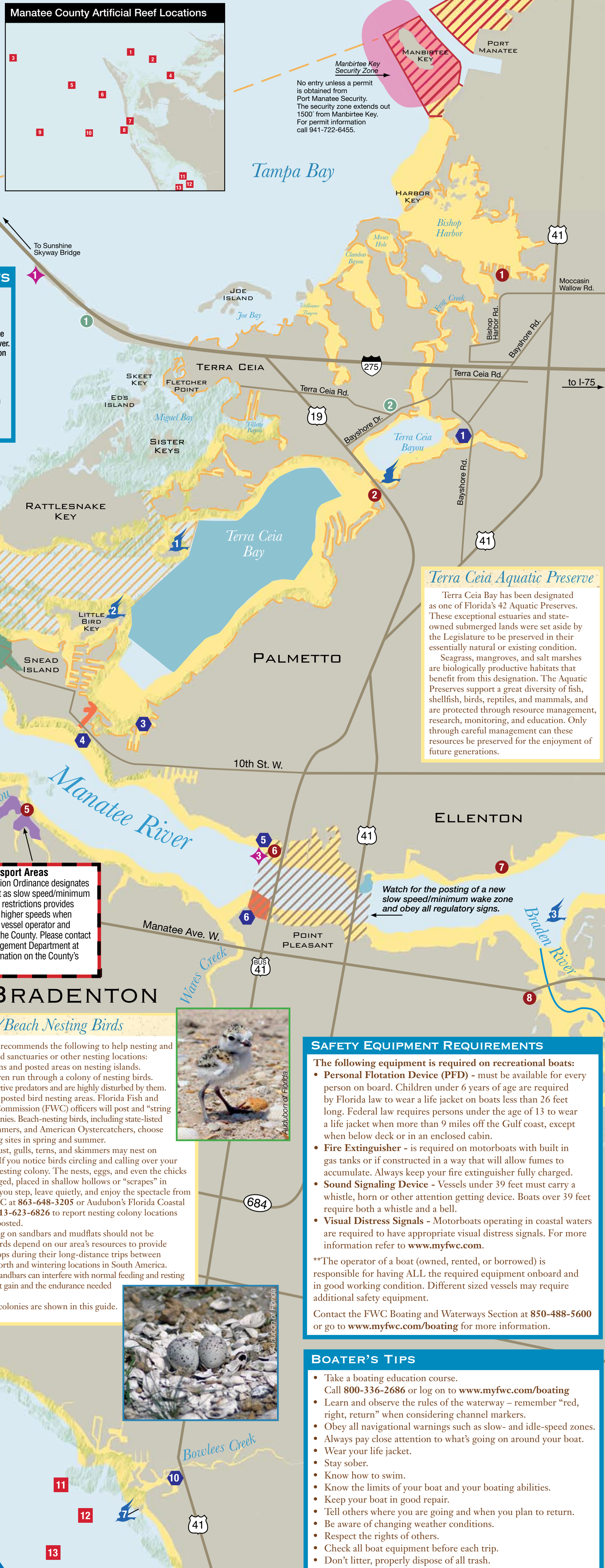
MARINAS	Clean Marina	Fuel Gas/Diesel	Pumpout	Bait	Marker No.	Contact	Address
1	—	—	—	—	—	941-729-8384	6817 Bayshore Rd., Palmetto
2	—	•	—	•	53	941-778-1977	5501 Marina Dr., Holmes Beach
3	—	•	•	•	—	941-729-8128	509 Marina Dr., Palmetto
4	—	—	—	—	—	941-729-4878	4000 10th St. W., Palmetto
5	—	•	•	•	19	941-729-6021	1005 Riverside Dr., Palmetto
6	—	•	•	•	22	941-747-8300	1000 1st Ave. W., Bradenton
7	—	•	•	•	49	941-778-2288	402 Church Ave., Bradenton Beach
8	—	—	—	—	—	941-761-4554	4522 121st St. W., Cortez
9	—	•	•	•	33	941-383-1311	6040 Gulf of Mexico Dr., Longboat Key
10	—	•	•	•	—	941-355-2781	7150 N. Tamiami Trail, Bradenton

AUDUBON BIRD SANCTUARIES	Address
1	Nina Griffiths Washburn
2	Terra Ceia Little Bird Key
3	Dot Dash Bird Nesting Colony
4	Cortez Key
5	Town Island
6	Whale Key
7	Bowlees Creek Bird Island

PARKS/PRESERVES	Address
1	Skyway Fishing Pier State Park (South Skyway Fishing Pier)
2	Terra Ceia Preserve State Park/ Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve
3	Emerson Point Preserve
4	De Soto National Memorial & Riverview Point Preserve
5	Robinson Preserve
6	Manatee Beach
7	Neal Preserve
8	Coquina Beach
9	Leflis Key Preserve
10	Joan M. Durante Park

FISHING PIERS/POINTS OF INTEREST	Address
1	Skyway Fishing Pier State Park (South Skyway Fishing Pier)
2	Anna Maria City Pier
3	Green Bridge Pier
4	Cortez Fishing Village
5	Bradenton Beach Pier

ARTIFICIAL REEFS	Depth	Latitude	Longitude
1	15'	27° 33.19'N	82° 42.37'W
2	14'	27° 32.90'N	82° 40.30'W
3	40'-41'	27° 32.39'N	82° 52.70'W
4	12'-16'	27° 31.84'N	82° 38.77'W
5	30'	27° 29.99'N	82° 47.00'W
6	20'	27° 29.41'N	82° 44.99'W
7	4'-10'	27° 27.99'N	82° 41.65'W
8	8'-15'	27° 26.99'N	82° 41.83'W
9	40'-42'	27° 26.59'N	82° 49.20'W
10	30'-31'	27° 26.56'N	82° 44.85'W
11	10'	27° 24.50'N	82° 36.10'W
12	10'-11'	27° 23.90'N	82° 35.60'W
13	10'	27° 23.50'N	82° 36.25'W



FISHING THE SEAGRASS FLATS

- Do not operate your boat in areas that are too shallow for your equipment.
- Use nautical charts and tide tables to plan your course.
- Never cut through seagrass beds with a propeller.
- Watch your prop wash for mud or plant life which may indicate you are too shallow. Remember prop scars take years to recover.
- Pole or use a trolling motor when traveling across or fishing on the flats. Quiet fisherman catch more fish.
- If you run aground, turn off your engine! Raise the motor and push or pole your way to deeper water. If necessary, wait for high tide to move your boat.
- Do not crowd another boat. If you see another boat fishing on the flats, do not approach unless beckoned.
- Stirred-up sediments are harmful to seafife. Always keep at least 12 inches of water under your propeller.

Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve

Terra Ceia Bay has been designated as one of Florida's 42 Aquatic Preserves. These exceptional estuaries and state-owned submerged lands were set aside by the Legislature to be preserved in their essentially natural or existing condition. Seagrass, mangroves, and salt marshes are biologically productive habitats that benefit from this designation. The Aquatic Preserves support a great diversity of fish, shellfish, birds, reptiles, and mammals, and are protected through resource management, research, monitoring, and education. Only through careful management can these resources be preserved for the enjoyment of future generations.

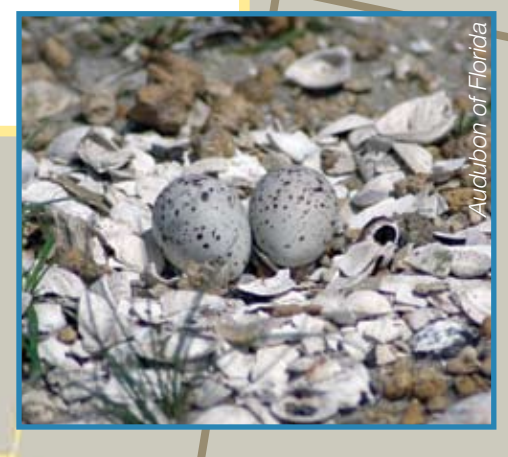
Special Regulated Watersport Areas

The County's Manatee Protection Ordinance designates Warners Bayou East and West as slow speed/minimum wake zones, but under certain restrictions provides for the operation of vessels at higher speeds when engaged in watersports, if the vessel operator and vessel are permitted through the County. Please contact the Conservation Lands Management Department at 941-745-3723 to obtain information on the County's permitting program.

Bird Sanctuaries/Beach Nesting Birds

The Audubon of Florida recommends the following to help nesting and migrating birds found in bird sanctuaries or other nesting locations:

- Always comply with signs and posted areas on nesting islands.
- Never let dogs or children run through a colony of nesting birds.
- Birds know dogs are effective predators and are highly disturbed by them.
- On beaches, stay out of posted bird nesting areas. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) officers will post and "string fence" active nesting colonies. Beach-nesting birds, including state-listed Least Terns, Black Skimmers, and American Oystercatchers, choose sandy beaches as nesting sites in spring and summer.
- Between April and August, gulls, terns, and skimmers may nest on unmarked beach areas. If you notice birds circling and calling over your head, you may be in a nesting colony. The nests, eggs, and even the chicks will be highly camouflaged, placed in shallow hollows or "scraps" in the sand. Watch where you step, leave quietly, and enjoy the spectacle from a distance. Contact FWC at 863-648-3205 or Audubon's Florida Coastal Islands Sanctuaries at 813-623-6826 to report nesting colony locations that have not yet been posted.
- Birds resting and feeding on sandbars and mudflats should not be disturbed. Migrating birds depend on our area's resources to provide critical food and rest stops during their long-distance trips between nesting sites in the far north and wintering locations in South America. Disturbance of birds on sandbars can interfere with normal feeding and resting behavior, reducing weight gain and the endurance needed for long journeys.
- Important bird nesting colonies are shown in this guide.



DIVER DOWN FLAG

This flag indicates divers in the water. Boaters in the vicinity of a vessel displaying the diver down flag must give 100' clearance inshore or 300' clearance in the open waters, or drop to idle speed within these distances. A flag displayed on a vessel must be at least 20" by 24", and be displayed for 360° visibility. Flags attached to a float may be 12" by 12". A stiffener is also required to keep the flag unfurled.

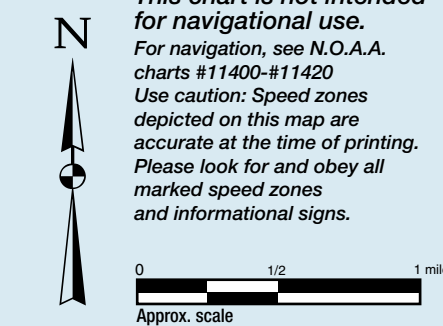
- ### LEGEND
- Intra-coastal Waterway
 - Regulated Channel - 25 mph
 - Regulated Area - 25 mph
 - Slow Speed/Minimum Wake Zone
 - Idle Speed/No Wake Zone
 - Historical Recreation Area - areas historically used for watersports
 - Manatee Key Security Zone - entry by permit only
 - Internal Combustion Engine Exclusion Zone
 - Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve Boundary
 - Special Regulated Watersport Area - by permit only
 - Seagrass
 - Artificial Reef
 - Marina
 - Boat Ramp
 - Draw Bridge
 - Point of Interest
 - Park/Preserve
 - Swim Area - no vessel entry
 - Bird Sanctuary
 - Bird Viewing
 - Exit Number

BRIDGES

Bridge tenders can be contacted on channel 9 of your marine radio. In an emergency, or in the event you are unable to contact the bridge tender by radio, the emergency toll free number is 866-335-9696.

BRIDGE OPENINGS

Anna Maria and Cortez Bridges:
May 16 - Jan. 14: opens on the hour and 20 and 40 minutes past the hour from 7am to 6pm daily and on demand between 6pm and 7am.
Jan. 15 - May 15: opens on the hour and half hour from 6am to 7pm.
Longboat Pass Bridge: opens on demand.





Vessel Control & Water Safety

"Idle Speed" means the lowest speed at which a vessel or personal watercraft can operate while maintaining steering control and forward progress. Actual speed will depend upon the design of the vessel, the vessel's load, wind direction and speed, and sea conditions. Generally, idle speed is between 1-3 mph for outboard and inboard/outboard vessels, 2-5 mph for fixed shaft/rudder vessels, and is the minimum speed necessary for personal watercraft to maintain steering control and forward progress.

"Slow Speed" means the speed at which a vessel proceeds when it is fully off plane and completely settled into the water, and not producing a wake that endangers other vessels under the existing circumstances.

A vessel in a slow speed zone:

1. that is operating on a plane is not proceeding at slow speed;
2. that is in the process of coming off plane and settling into the water, by which action creates more than a minimum wake, is not proceeding at slow speed.

A vessel in a slow speed zone:

1. that produces no wake or minimum wake is proceeding at slow speed;
2. that is completely off plane and which has settled into the water is proceeding at slow speed.

MIND YOUR WATERWAY SIGNS
 • BOATS • SHIPS • AIRBOATS • PERSONAL WATERCRAFT
EMERGENCY: CALL: 888-404-3922
CELL: #FWC OR #FWC
VHF RADIO: CHANNEL 16

Lowest speed needed to maintain steering and headway.

Settled in the water, not plowing, minimum wake.

Resume safe speed.

Manatees, Sea Turtles & Dolphins

"LOOK OUT BELOW! Where Seagrasses Grow, Manatees Go."

Manatees spend all or part of the year in Manatee County waters. Many have been hit by a boat at least once and bear the telltale scars of those encounters.

Manatees are at greatest risk from speeding boats when they are feeding or resting in or near seagrass meadows. In these shallow waters, manatees often cannot swim fast enough or dive deep enough to get out of harm's way.

The maps included in this guide depict the areas of County waters where boaters are required to operate at slow speed to protect manatees. Just as you put on the brakes when you drive through a school zone, you are required to back off your throttle when you are boating in these areas. Take it easy please, and remember... where seagrasses grow, manatees go.

What's the Connection?

Manatees graze in seagrass meadows at high tide, and on the deeper fringes of grass beds at low tide. They aren't the only residents that need seagrasses to survive. Spotted sea trout, a popular sport fish, depend upon grass beds during all stages of their life cycle. Seagrasses also nurture crabs, shrimp and smaller bait fish that are consumed by prized gamefish such as snook and redfish.



Manatees

Manatee County's namesake, the West Indian Manatee, is a gentle, whiskered mammal that lives year round in Florida's shallow coastal waters, including rivers, bays and the near-shore Gulf of Mexico.

Manatees, sometimes called sea cows, are marine mammals that periodically surface to breathe. They are gray in color with a seal-like body that tapers to a flat, paddle-shaped tail and can reach weights of up to 3,000 pounds and lengths of more than 10 feet. Although generally slow moving, they can exert bursts of speed of 15-20 mph.

Manatees are found in the Southeastern United States, the Caribbean Sea and have been reported as far south as Brazil. Rarely, they have been sighted along the eastern seaboard as far north as Chesapeake Bay and Cape Cod. Local sightings are more common in the spring and summer months, when warming water temperatures trigger the return of manatees to this area to feed on seagrasses. In the winter, when water temperatures dip, manatees move to warmer springs and near warm-water power plant outfall pipes.

Since manatees are usually found near the shore, they are threatened by fast-moving boats. Many "sea cows" are killed each year as a result of collisions with boats, or are seriously injured by propellers.

In order to adequately protect manatees, Manatee County has implemented slow-speed zones in many of our waterways. Signage has been placed throughout Manatee County to warn boaters of areas manatees frequent. Speed zones have been depicted on the maps that are included in this guide.

It is important to avoid contact with manatees. If a manatee appears injured or threatened in any way, call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 888-404-3922 or #FWC, *FWC on your cell phone.

Sea Turtles

From the months of April through October, sea turtles nest on Manatee County beaches. Although five species of sea turtles inhabit the Gulf Coast region; loggerhead, green, hawksbill, leatherback and Kemp's ridley, the loggerhead is the most common nester along Manatee County beaches.

At night during the summer months, female sea turtles will come ashore, dig a burrow in the sand, lay up to 100 golf-ball-sized eggs, cover them, and then return to sea.

In about 60 days, the little turtles will break through their shells, dig their way out of the nest and traverse the beach to the Gulf of Mexico, where they will swim offshore to hide amidst floating seagrass. Both people and predators pose a great threat to the survival of the newly hatched sea turtles; few hatchlings survive the difficult journey back to the sea.

Sea turtles, both adult and hatchlings, use the dim light reflected from the Gulf of Mexico to find their way from the beach to the water. Lights on shore can distract turtles, often with deadly results. Shorefront property owners and businesses should turn off any lights that can be seen from the beach during the nesting season. Beachgoers should never approach a sea turtle coming ashore or disturb a nesting sea turtle or hatchlings.



Dolphins

Manatee County waters are home to more than 100 resident Bottlenose Dolphins. During the spring and summer, mothers and their calves can be found feeding in the shallow waters of Palma Sola Bay and Anna Maria Sound. In the fall and winter, dolphins are more frequently found in the passes and along the Gulf shorelines.

As air-breathers, dolphins are vulnerable to the effects of red tide. They are also endangered by marine debris such as fishing line, which can entangle them and cause injury or death.



Popular Sport Fish

Commit yourself to ethical angling; the future of your sport depends on it!

- Help increase fish stocks through catch and release
- Observe regulations and report violations
- Limit your take and vary your target
- Only keep fish for food or trophy
- Share what you know to help the sport grow

NAME:	FLOUNDER	REDFISH (RED DRUM)	SHEEPSHEAD	SNOOK	SPOTTED SEATROUT
HABITAT:	Channel edges on sandy bottoms near tidal passes and docks.	Near docks and pilings, deeper holes in seagrass beds and channels during the warmest and coolest months; also around seagrass beds and oyster bars.	Near bridges, docks, seawalls, pilings or any underwater structure.	Canals, tidal creeks, and other deep, warm waters in cool months; near tidal passes, mangrove fringe and along the beaches in warmer weather.	Seagrass beds during moderate water temperatures, deeper waters during warmer and cooler months.
FISHING TTP:	Use live shrimp, sand fleas, sardines, pinfish or jigs bounced slowly along the bottom as you drift.	Use live shrimp fished on bottom or free-lined, soft-bodied jigs bounced slowly along bottom, or small gold spoons.	Use live shrimp, sand fleas, or small crabs on small hook. Fish just off the bottom and on first tug, strike hard.	Use live shrimp, small mullet, live pigfish, sardines, jigs or minnow-like lures, either free-lined or on a bobber.	Use live shrimp, pigfish, soft-bodied jigs or minnow-like lures, either free-lined or on a bobber.
SEASON:	All year.	All year.	All year.	Closed December 15- January 31 and May-August.	Closed November-December.
SIZE:	Minimum 12", 10 fish per person per day allowed.	Not less than 18" or more than 27", 1 fish per person per day allowed.	Minimum 12", 15 fish per person per day allowed.	Not less than 28" or more than 33", 1 fish per person per day.	Not less than 15" or more than 20", 4 fish per person per day, only 1 fish per person may be more than 20".

Please note that fishing regulations change frequently; please check with authorities for current size limits and closed seasons by visiting www.myfwc.com/marine/regulation.htm

MONOFILAMENT RECOVERY & RECYCLING PROGRAM

The Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program (MRRP) is a statewide effort to educate the public on the problems caused by monofilament line left in the environment, to encourage recycling bins and drop-off locations, and to conduct volunteer monofilament line cleanup events.

Outdoor recycling bins constructed of PVC are mounted at many piers, boat ramps, and marinas throughout the state. Indoor recycling bins are hosted by tackle shops and department stores.

To learn more about the program and the effects that monofilament line has on our wildlife, visit the website at: www.fishinglinerecycling.org/index.asp

MANATEE TIPS

- Be alert to signs of manatee presence (swirls, tip of snout breaking the water when surfacing to breathe).
- Wear polarized sunglasses to better see what is beneath the water.
- Obey posted speed and manatee caution signs. Manatees move slowly and have difficulty evading boats operating at planing speeds. Even slow-moving boats can crush manatees when clearance is inadequate.
- Avoid or idle slowly across shallow grass beds, where manatees feed and rest. Lift your engine to avoid prop dredging, if you get caught by the tide in an area too shallow for your draft.
- Pole or use a trolling motor to fish the "flats" (seagrass meadows).
- Do not attempt to feed or give water to manatees. Harassment in any form can result in fines of up to \$50,000 and a year in prison.
- For more information about manatees and their protection, go to www.myfwc.com

LEGEND

- Intracoastal Waterway
- Regulated Channel - 25 mph
- Regulated Corridor - 25 mph
- Regulated Area - 25 mph
- Slow Speed/Minimum Wake Zone
- Slow Speed/No Wake Zone
- Historical Recreation Area - areas historically used for watersports
- Boat Ramp
- Point of Interest
- Park/Preserve
- Bird Sanctuary
- Bird Viewing
- Exit Number

PARKS/PRESERVES

Address	Address
11 Rye Preserve	751 Rye Wildness Tr. E., Parrish
12 Lake Manatee State Park	19001 SR 64 E., Bradenton
13 Braden River Park	5201 51st St. E., Bradenton
14 Jiggs Landing	6106 Braden River

BOAT RAMPS

Address	Address	Open 24 Hours	Useable at all Tides	Boats Over 15'	Restrooms
8 State Rd. 64/ Braden River	3020 Manatee Ave. E. (SR 64) on Braden River, Bradenton	•	•	•	•
11 Fort Hamer	1605 Fort Hamer Rd. on Manatee River 3 miles S. of Parrish	•	•	•	•
12 Lake Manatee State Park (fee required)	19001 SR 64 E., Bradenton	•	•	•	•
13 Lake Manatee	20007 SR 64 E., Bradenton	•	•	•	•
14 Jiggs Landing	6106 Braden River Rd., Bradenton	•	•	•	•



ENGINE RESTRICTION:
 Only boats equipped with an engine of 20 h.p. or less may operate on Lake Manatee.

STANDARD WATERWAY SYMBOLS AND MESSAGES

RESTRICTED AREA SYMBOL Standard Messages: SWIM AREA NO BOATS CLOSED AREA NO BOATING DANGER LOCKS	RESTRICTED AREA SYMBOL Standard Messages: ROCK DANGER SIGNAL SHALLOW AREA DANGER DAM	RESTRICTED AREA SYMBOL Standard Messages: SLOW SPEED/ MINIMUM WAKE IDLE SPEED/ NO WAKE	RESTRICTED AREA SYMBOL Standard Messages: STATE PARK AHEAD MARINA ENTRANCE FISH ATTRACTOR ARTIFICIAL REEF
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FISHERMAN'S CATCH AND RELEASE GUIDE:

Proper release techniques increase a fish's chance of survival while preserving this valuable resource for future generations. Mishandling of fish, may lead to unnecessary mortality. Follow these simple steps to increase a released fish's chance of survival:

- 1. How to Begin**
 - Try to set the hook quickly to prevent the fish from swallowing the bait.
 - Use hooks that are barbless and made from metals that rust quickly.
 - Keep release tools handy.
- 2. Handling Your Catch**
 - Try to keep the fish in the water while removing the hook.
 - Use a wet glove or rag to hold the fish if it must be handled.
 - Get the fish back in the water as quickly as possible.
- 3. Removing the Hook**
 - Back the hook out the opposite way it went in.
 - Cut the leader close to the fish's mouth if the hook cannot be quickly removed.
 - Use needle-nose pliers or a de-hooker to work the hook free and protect your hands.
- 4. The Release**
 - Gently place the fish in the water, supporting its body until it swims away.
 - An exhausted fish can be resuscitated by moving it back and forth to force water through its gills.
 - If a released fish does not swim away, recover it and try again.

A RELEASED FISH THAT HAS BEEN HANDLED PROPERLY HAS AN EXCELLENT CHANCE OF SURVIVAL!