

Sea Island Cares



Haley Watkins, Lead Naturalist at Sea Island, excavating a nest to assist loggerhead sea turtle hatchlings.

Record-Breaking Sea Turtle Nesting Season

As told by Haley Watkins, Lead Naturalist at Sea Island

Every year, from Memorial Day to Labor Day, the Sea Island nature team conducts daily dawn patrols and night walks for loggerhead sea turtle conservation. The team, consisting of naturalists and turtle technicians, is joined by Sea Island guests and members as they survey nests, collect DNA samples, record nest inventories, and witness sea turtle hatchlings crawl towards the Atlantic Ocean on their journey out to the Sargasso Sea.

In 2022, Sea Island recorded its biggest nesting season in the last 30 years with 144 nests. This led to a total of 8,733 hatchlings and counting. As we celebrate a record year for sea turtles, we are also celebrating a record-setting year for our Adopt-A-Nest program.

The Sea Island Adopt-A-Nest program allows donors to be assigned a specific nest – either virtually or with their family name displayed beachside on a nest marker – and receive regular updates on the status of their nest and hatchlings. All donations raised as part of the program, which topped \$58,000 in the 2022 season, go directly to the Wildlife Conservation Fund within the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. These funds are crucial for providing survey supplies, ATVs, predator screens, and nesting stakes for research centers throughout Georgia's coast and barrier islands.



Sea turtle nest marker on Sea Island beach.

Here at Sea Island, we are one of only two Georgia research centers that are allowed to take guests with us as our nature team conducts and logs their research. This allows guests to be fully immersed in our conservation efforts, learn more about these fascinating animals and why we should continue to help protect them as an endangered species. If you are looking to get involved in sea turtle conservation or want to explore the Adopt-a-Nest program further, please visit seaisland.com/adopt-a-nest.

Join a Company That Cares

Sea Island is looking for team members in:

- Accounting
- Engineering and Maintenance
- Golf
- Recreation
- Spa, Salon, & Fitness
- Bike Shop
- Food & Beverage
- Guest Services
- Reservations
- Stewarding
- Conference Services
- Housekeeping
- Landscaping
- Retail
- Tennis
- Culinary
- Laundry
- Security
- Transportation

Sea Island offers:

- Competitive pay
- Tickets at Work discounts
- Medical, dental, and vision insurance
- Flexible spending accounts for healthcare, daycare, and dependent care expenses
- Overtime opportunities
- Discounts on activities, shopping, dining, and lodging at Sea Island and other resorts
- Paid time off and holidays
- Growth and development opportunities
- Full-time, part-time, and seasonal positions
- Tuition reimbursement
- 401(k) matching
- Assistance programs



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