

Text HI to 239-FMBeach (239-362-3224) for answers to frequently asked questions about Town services

Thank you for your interest in this monthly publication that provides brief news and information about a variety of Town topics. Comments and suggestions are always welcome - [publicinfo@fmbgov.com](mailto:publicinfo@fmbgov.com)



**View Town Council meeting agendas and minutes**

**Sign up** to receive notice of meetings

Meetings are held at 2525 Estero Boulevard in Town Council Chambers. Seats are arranged to social distancing standards and attendees are required to wear masks.

**Watch Town Council meetings live**

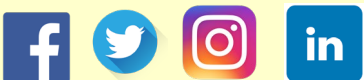
All Town Council meetings, Local Planning Agency (LPA) meetings, Special Magistrate Hearings and Town advisory committee meetings are broadcast live on the [Town's YouTube channel](#)

**Meeting dates and times are posted on the Town's website**

The calendar section on the home page is one way to keep up with dates and times.

Another way is to [sign up to receive email notifications](#) of meetings and other info as it is posted on the website.

Follow the Town of FMB, including Bay Oaks, on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn; Newton Beach Park and Mound House on Facebook and Instagram



Town Hall remains closed to the public to prevent the spread of COVID, but most services are being conducted by email or phone.

**Questions? Call 239-765-0202.** Appointments can be set up for things that cannot be done virtually.

**The State of Florida has launched an [online reservation system for residents to sign up to receive the COVID vaccine.](#)**

- It's season, which means that bikes, scooters, skateboards, strollers, people, golf carts, cars, trams, trolleys, etc., are sharing our very busy roads. **PEDESTRIANS HAVE THE RIGHT OF WAY AT ALL TIMES.** On sidewalks, pedestrians should stay on the right, pedal-powered bicyclists on the left - riding with traffic. **PLEASE REMEMBER: Vehicles - specifically, powered golf carts and electric bikes - are not permitted on the beach or sidewalks!**
- **Speaking of busy season...noticed the Town's new parking signs?** They have the new logo that was adopted in 2020 and instructions for using the pay for parking app through [Passport](#).
- **Your input is needed!** The Town is in the process of updating its comprehensive plan that sets goals and long-range vision for future land development and redevelopment. [Take the online survey](#)
- **The Mound House wants you!** If you are a prospective volunteer, current volunteer, or Mound House member, [click here](#) to learn about the 2021 "Volunteer Training Speaker Series" on Friday, February 26, 2021. See the **schedule of March events at Mound House** that is attached to this bulletin.
- **ATTENTION BEACHFRONT PROPERTY OWNERS:** You might be eligible to have the costs of lighting required to comply with sea turtle regulations paid for by The Sea Turtle Conservancy's Beachfront Lighting Retrofit Program. Call the Conservancy at (352) 323-6441 or visit its [website](#)
- **Preservation repairs are complete at Seven Seas Cottage at Newton Beach Park, including landscaping.** The cottage is a historically significant structure managed by the Culture, Parks and Recreation Department. Newton Beach Park is located at 4650 Estero Boulevard.
- **Registration is open for Little League that is beginning at Bay Oaks Recreational Campus.** [Click here](#) for information or contact the League president at [FORTMYERSBEACHLL@gmail.com](mailto:FORTMYERSBEACHLL@gmail.com)
- **Flood season is just around the corner,** though Floridians need to be ready at all times for the possibility of a flood. [Visit the Town's website](#) for information about how to prepare.
- **Due to a change in Florida's Building Code 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, new forms** are available on the [forms and applications page on the Town's website](#). PLEASE NOTE: plans are now only able to be submitted online at [this link](#).
- The Lee County Sheriff's Office has been working through the lengthy legal processes required to **remove derelict vessels from the back bay. In the last few months, nine vessels have been removed and 16 more** are in process.
- **At the February 16 meeting, Town Council adopted Emergency Declaration #8 in response to current COVID conditions.** This continues requiring masks where social distancing cannot be maintained and prohibits permits for special events unless the event organizer attends a Town Council meeting to request an exception. [Read the declaration.](#)
- **Noise complaints after 9 p.m. should be reported to the Lee County Sheriff by calling 239-477-1000.**





# Mound House and Newton Beach Park

## March 2021 Program Calendar

Mound House Museum Hours and Programs are subject to change.

Please check our website for the most up to date information.

Masks required for all participants. CDC and social distancing guidelines apply to all programs and museum visitors. Kayak tours are limited to 8 participants.

Museum hours: Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday 9am to 4pm.

- MAR. 2 TUES.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
9am – Beachwalk (at Newton Beach Park, 4650 Estero Blvd.), *Free*.  
9am to 12pm – **New!** Caloosa Carvers –Woodcarving Demonstrations, *Free*.  
11am – Shell Mound outside guided tour, \$5, (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
2pm- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.
- MAR. 3 WED.** Mound House Museum Closed.  
9am – Mangroves by Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
1pm – Family Fun Kayak Tour- for ages 6 and up. [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) for info and to register.
- MAR. 4 THUR.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
9am – Beachwalk (at Newton Beach Park, 4650 Estero Blvd.), *Free*.  
11am- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
2pm- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.
- MAR. 5 FRI.** Mound House Museum Closed.  
9am – Mangroves by Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
1pm- **New!** Beginner Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.
- MAR. 6 SAT.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
9am –Mangroves by Kayak Tour \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
11am – Shell Mound outside guided tour, \$5, (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
1pm – Family Fun Kayak Tour- for ages 6 and up. [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) for info and to register.  
2pm- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.
- MAR. 9 TUES.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
9am – Beachwalk (at Newton Beach Park, 4650 Estero Blvd.), *Free*.  
10am- Family Adventures Outside Program, \$2 (*MH Members free*), Museum Admission not included.  
11am – Shell Mound outside guided tour, \$5, (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
2pm- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.
- MAR. 10 WED.** Mound House Museum Closed.  
9am – Mangroves by Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
1pm – **New!** Advanced Kayak Tour, \$55 (*MH Members \$25*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.

- MAR. 11 THUR.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
 9am – Beachwalk (at Newton Beach Park, 4650 Estero Blvd.), *Free*.  
 11am- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
 2pm- Family Adventures Outside Program, \$2 (*MH Members free*), Museum Admission not included.
- MAR. 12 FRI.** Mound House Museum Closed.  
 9am – Mangroves by Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 4:30pm – Sunset Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.
- MAR. 13 SAT.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
 9am –Mangroves by Kayak Tour \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 10am- Family Adventures Outside Program, \$2 (*MH Members free*), Museum Admission not included.  
 11am – Shell Mound outside guided tour, \$5, (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
 1pm – Family Fun Kayak Tour- for ages 6 and up. [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) for info and to register.  
 2pm- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.
- MAR. 16 TUES.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
 9am – Beachwalk (at Newton Beach Park, 4650 Estero Blvd.), *Free*.  
 9am to 12pm – **New!** Caloosa Carvers –Woodcarving Demonstrations, *Free*.  
 10am- Family Adventures Outside Program, \$2 (*MH Members free*), Museum Admission not included.  
 11am – Shell Mound outside guided tour, \$5, (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
 2pm- **New!** Fishing Rancho outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Admission not included.
- MAR. 17 WED.** Mound House Museum Closed.  
 9am – Mangroves by Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 1pm – Family Fun Kayak Tour- for ages 6 and up. [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) for info and to register.
- MAR. 18 THUR.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
 9am – Beachwalk (at Newton Beach Park, 4650 Estero Blvd.), *Free*.  
 10am- Family Adventures Outside Program, \$2 (*MH Members free*), Museum Admission not included.  
 11am- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
 2pm- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.
- MAR. 19 FRI.** Mound House Museum Closed.  
 9am – **New!** Beginner Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 1pm – Family Fun Kayak Tour- for ages 6 and up. [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) for info and to register.
- MAR. 20 SAT.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
 9am –Mangroves by Kayak Tour \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 10am- Family Adventures Outside Program, \$2 (*MH Members free*), Museum Admission not included.  
 11am – Shell Mound outside guided tour, \$5, (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
 1pm – Family Fun Kayak Tour- for ages 6 and up. [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) for info and to register.  
 2pm- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.
- MAR. 23 TUES.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
 9am – Beachwalk (at Newton Beach Park, 4650 Estero Blvd.), *Free*.  
 9am – **New!** La Florida Kayak Tour , \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 11am – Shell Mound outside guided tour, \$5, (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
 2pm- **New!** Fishing Rancho outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Admission not included.
- MAR. 24 WED.** Mound House Museum Closed.  
 9am – Mangroves by Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 1pm – Family Fun Kayak Tour- for ages 6 and up. [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) for info and to register.

- MAR. 25 THUR.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
 9am – Beachwalk (at Newton Beach Park, 4650 Estero Blvd.), *Free*.  
 11am- Shell Mound outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
 2pm- **New!** Fishing Rancho outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Admission not included.
- MAR. 26 FRI.** Mound House Museum Closed.  
 9:30am – Mangroves by Kayak Tour \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 4:45pm – Sunset Kayak Tour, \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.
- MAR. 27 SAT.** Mound House Museum Open 9am to 4pm.  
 9am –Mangroves by Kayak Tour \$45 (*MH Members \$15*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 11am – Shell Mound outside guided tour, \$5, (*MH Members free*) Museum Admission not included.  
 1pm – **New!** Advanced Kayak Tour, \$55 (*MH Members \$25*) [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register.  
 2pm- **New!** Fishing Rancho outside guided tour \$5 (*MH Members free*) Admission not included.

## MOUND HOUSE & NEWTON BEACH PARK PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS:

**ADVANCED KAYAK TOUR: New!** Seeking a greater challenge while exploring parts of the Estero Bay where others typically don't go? Then join us on a 3-hour paddle through mangrove isles of Hell Pickney Bay. Museum admission included and an extra ticket to give to a guest! Reservations required visit [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register. COST: \$55 per person (*MH Members \$25*) All paddling equipment provided. Weather permitting. CDC and social distancing guidelines apply to this program. Masks required for all participants while on land. Maximum of 8 paddlers per tour.

**BEACHWALK AT NEWTON BEACH PARK:** Explore the natural treasures on Fort Myers Beach through a guided walk along the shore. Participants should meet at Newton Beach Park under the thatched hut (4650 Estero Blvd). Wear sunscreen, appropriate clothing, shoes and hats. Weather permitting. CDC and social distancing guidelines apply to this program. Masks required for all participants. Free.

**BEGINNER KAYAK TOUR: New!** For true beginners who want to go kayaking at their own pace. During this 2-hour informative and scenic tour, participants will learn the basics of kayaking and have an introduction to the unique ecosystem of Estero Bay and Matanzas Pass. \$45 per person (*MH Members \$15*) All paddling equipment provided. Weather permitting. CDC and social distancing guidelines apply to this program. Masks required for all participants while on land. Maximum of 8 paddlers per tour.

**CALOOSA CARVERS: New!** Join the Caloosa Carvers on the grounds of the Mound House for woodcarving demonstrations featuring several replica artifacts from the Calusa culture. Free.

**FAMILY ADVENTURES OUTSIDE PROGRAM:** Explore everything fun at the Mound House! Interpretive staff leads families through entertaining and educational experiences you will never forget! Perfect for families with children 6 and older. Masks required for all participants over the age of 6. CDC guidelines are followed this and all programs. COST: \$2 - Museum admission NOT included (*Members free*).

**FAMILY FUN KAYAK TOUR:** Have fun with the whole family at the Mound House with a kayak tour designed specifically for families with children ages six and up. Look for wildlife including birds, dolphins, and manatees as we cruise through the mangroves in Estero Bay. Reservations required visit [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register. Must have children ages 6 to 11 years of age to register for this tour. Mound House kayak tours are conducted in accordance with Florida Society for Ethical Ecotourism guidelines COST: \$15 (ages 6 to 12), \$25 (ages 13 and up) Museum admission ticket included (*Members \$10*) All paddling equipment provided. Weather permitting. CDC and social distancing guidelines apply to this program. Masks required for all participants while on land. Maximum 8 paddlers.

## MOUND HOUSE & NEWTON BEACH PARK PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS CONTINUED:

**FISHING RANCHO OUTSIDE GUIDED TOUR: New!** Are you a history buff? Expand your knowledge of Florida history by taking this tour to learn about the Latino fishing village, or *rancho*, which existed on the mound between the Calusa and Anglo-Pioneers. Explore the archaeology and history of the site and what clues archaeologists and historians uncovered

about this multicultural society. Reservations required visit [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register. Masks required for all participants over the age of 6. CDC guidelines are followed this and all programs. COST: \$5 Museum admission NOT included (Members free).

**LA FLORIDA KAYAK TOUR: New!** From conquistadors to the Fishing Ranchos, learn more about the history and legacy of Spanish explorers and Latino settlers here in southwest Florida as we paddle through history on this kayak tour of Estero Bay. Mound House kayak tours are conducted in accordance with Florida Society for Ethical Ecotourism guidelines. All paddling and safety equipment provided. Ages 12 and up. Weather permitting. COST: \$45 per person (MH Members \$15) Museum admission ticket included. Private group tours available. Reservations required. Go to [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register. CDC and social distancing guidelines apply to this program. Masks required for all participants while on land. Maximum of 8 paddlers per tour.

**MANGROVES BY KAYAK TOUR:** This guided kayak tour explores the winding mangrove creeks and hidden backwaters of the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve as only a kayaker can. Join Mound House Environmental Educators as you experience the abundant natural beauty of the ancient realm of the Calusa. Search for birds, fish, manatees and dolphins as you paddle through the Estero and Hell Peckney Bays in a tandem kayak. Mound House kayak tours are conducted in accordance with Florida Society for Ethical Ecotourism guidelines. All paddling and safety equipment provided. Ages 12 and up. Weather permitting. COST: \$45 per person (MH Members \$15) Museum admission ticket included. Private group tours available. Reservations required. Go to [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register. CDC and social distancing guidelines apply to this program. Masks required for all participants while on land. Maximum of 8 paddlers per tour.

**SHELL MOUND OUTSIDE GUIDED TOUR:** Interested in archaeology? This tour is for you! Go on a tour with Mound House interpretive staff and learn about the 2,000-year-old Calusa Indian Shell Mound Site. Explore the archaeology of the site and what clues archaeologists uncovered about this ancient society. Masks required for all participants over the age of 6. CDC guidelines are followed this and all programs. COST: \$5 Museum admission NOT included (*Members free*).

**SUNSET KAYAK TOUR:** Scheduled to catch a beautiful sunset, participants will explore tidal creeks and winding mangrove tunnels extending into the hidden backwaters of Estero Bay as only a kayaker can. This unique tour offers rare opportunity to experience the abundant life within our estuary in the quiet of twilight. Mound House kayak tours are conducted in accordance with Florida Society for Ethical Ecotourism guidelines. All paddling and safety equipment provided. Ages 12 and up. Weather permitting. COST: \$45 per person (MH Members \$15) Museum admission ticket included. Private group tours available. Reservations required. Go to [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org) to register. CDC and social distancing guidelines apply to this program. Masks required for all participants while on land. Maximum of 8 paddlers per tour.

**451 Connecticut Street, Fort Myers Beach, Florida 33931 - 239-765-0865 - [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org)**  
**Overflow parking is located at 216 Connecticut Street. Grounds are open daily sunrise to sunset.**

