



THE FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATION, INC.

A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION

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Governor Charlie Crist has proclaimed September 15, 2007 as Florida Lighthouse Day.

Of the 59 historic lighthouses constructed in the state, 30 are still standing. Of the 30, six are open to the public: St. Augustine, Ponce de Leon Inlet, Jupiter, Cape Florida, Key West and Boca Grande lighthouses. Many of the historic lighthouses plan special events for September 15. Among the celebrations:

Ponce Inlet Lighthouse plans family oriented activities, demonstrations, and kid's crafts at 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. New lighthouse exhibits and live entertainment are included with regular admission.

Jupiter Lighthouse will celebrate Florida Lighthouse Day with half off admission price and a free copy of *Loxahatchee Lament* for every visitor that day.

Key West Lighthouse will celebrate Florida Lighthouse Day by offering one-half off admissions and debut a new video about the history of the Key West Lighthouse in the Keeper's Quarters. New audio tours will also be available to tell the story of the Lighthouse Keepers "In Their Own Words." A new Children's Activity room is filled with hands-on projects for young visitors.

Cape Florida Lighthouse, in Bill Baggs State Park, will celebrate with the local Girl Scout and Brownie troops with a nature walk and presentation on Cape Florida history. St. Marks Lighthouse, in St. Marks Refuge, will have open house 12:30-3:30 pm. Cape St. George Lighthouse plans a brick laying ceremony to celebrate rebuilding of the lighthouse. Carrabelle Lighthouse Association is sponsoring an open house at Crooked River Lighthouse, 12:30 to 2:30 pm. Egmont Lighthouse Alliance will welcome visitors to Egmont Key and to the U.S. Coast Guard Lighthouse Museum on the island.

The 30 Florida historic lighthouses, which string along like emeralds on coastline necklace, are a national resource treasured for their historic, cultural and scenic values. They represent our heritage as "America's Castles." Florida's six reef lights along the Florida Keys are "America's Eiffel Towers".

Lighthouses, which once protected coastal shipping and guided mariners into Florida's ports and river safely since 1824, have become major tourist attractions.

The Florida Lighthouse Association promotes, preserves and protects the rich maritime heritage of the remaining 30 historic Florida lighthouses for future generations. The all-volunteer association, with more than 1,000 people, educates and raises attention to get public support to increase Florida lighthouse preservation measures. The association meets quarterly at a lighthouse and publishes a quarterly newsletter, FLASH. The Web site, www.floridalighthouses.org, provides detailed information about the association.

"The Florida Lighthouse Association is a non-profit group of citizen activists dedicated to the preservation of the 30 remaining historic lighthouses that line our state's 1200 mile coastline. Once central to the economic growth and settlement of our nation, many of Florida's lighthouses face uncertain futures.

Our mission is to preserve, restore, protect and defend Florida's lighthouse towers, along with their material culture, buildings, artifacts and records to assure that the magic of Florida's lighthouses and lighthouse keepers will be available for the enjoyment and understanding of future generations."



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE DAY

WHEREAS, lighthouses have played a significant economic and historical role in the settlement and development of Florida; and

WHEREAS, since 1824, lighthouses have protected coastal shipping and guided mariners into Florida's rivers and ports; and

WHEREAS, thirty of the fifty-nine lighthouses constructed are still standing on the land and in the waters of the Sunshine State; and

WHEREAS, lighthouses are tourist attractions; and

WHEREAS, Florida's lighthouses represent the romantic spirit and sense of adventure of Floridians; and

WHEREAS, it is in Florida's best interest to preserve, protect and promote these treasures of our seashores;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing September 15, 2007 as *Florida Lighthouse Day*.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 30th day of July, in the year two thousand seven.




Governor