

ESCAMBIA COUNTY “LEAVE NO TRACE” ORDINANCE

[Ord. No. 2015-29, § 2, 8-6-2015](#)

“Leave No Trace” on the beach

- **Fill in any holes in the sand and knock down sand sculptures at day’s end** to remove obstacles blocking sea turtles’ nesting activities.
- Remain at a distance from nesting sea turtles and hatchlings.
- **Properly dispose of trash and discarded fishing gear.** Sea turtles can become entangled in old fishing nets and lines or ingest plastic bags and wrappers, mistaking them for jellyfish.
- **Remove personal belongings from the beach at the end of each day.** Items such as umbrellas, tents, beach toys, bags, chairs, etc. left unattended **will be removed and disposed of.** Through the Leave No Trace ordinance adopted in August 2015 by the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners, **it is illegal to leave personal property on any portion of the sandy gulf beach daily from sunset until sunrise.**

Violations of this article shall be a civil infraction. The maximum civil penalty for a civil infraction shall not exceed \$500.00. A law enforcement officer or a code enforcement officer may issue a citation pursuant to [section 30-63](#) of the Escambia County Code of Ordinances. Each violation of any provision of this article shall constitute a separate offense.

Any person who willfully refuses to sign and accept a citation issued by a law enforcement officer or a code enforcement officer shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in F.S. § 775.082 or 775.083. A written warning to this effect shall be provided at the time any citation is issued hereunder.