

Through it all... a year of success stories!

Record Sea Turtle Nest Adoptions

60 adopted nests funded Claire Charde's sea turtle internship and project supplies for the Reserve's turtle program. **142 nests were identified** and protected against predation, resulting in **7,122 emerged hatchlings!**

#1 Kayaking Tour in the Nation

We connected with **295% more people** by expanding from 6-month to year-round boat and kayak offerings with our exclusive eco-tour partner, Rising Tide Explorers, who was **voted the #1 Kayaking Tour** by USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice 2020 Awards.

Virtual Education Reaches Globally

The inaugural Norris-Gaynor Student Scholarship Fellow, Morgan Zeleny, assisted the Education department reach a record **2,680 participants** during National Estuaries Week programs while live virtual fall field trips continue educating K-12 Collier County students.

Mangrove Restoration Begins

After years of collaborative research and monitoring efforts, restoration of mangrove die-off at Fruit Farm Creek on Marco Island will **restore nearly 265 acres**, providing essential habitat for wildlife and enhanced protection of our community from storms and flood events.

Boat Tours Accessible for All on "Dino Days"

A generous donation by Carol Donahue, in honor of her late husband, provides access for all. "Before Mike died of ALS, he asked that I donate our boat to an organization that would use it to allow other people with disabilities to experience the joy of being out in the water. Friends of Rookery Bay, with all of its educational programming, is the perfect organization to carry forth Mike's passion."

Keeping Rookery Bay Clean

Volunteers spent **262 hours** removing **69 bags of debris**, **18 bags of separated recyclables** and **74 bulk items** along our coastline and barrier islands.

