



Living with Alligators

Tips and Info

PLEASE share this information with your family, friends, neighbors and visiting guests.

Esplanade Golf & Country Club residents should contact the Statewide Nuisance Alligator Program (SNAP) Hotline for alligator concerns at:

866-FWC-GATOR (866-392-4286)

8:00am – 5:00pm 365 days a year

In the event of an after-hours emergency, call your community's emergency number at:

941-866-6044 (or call 911)

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO FEED, POSSESS, HARASS AND/OR KILL AN ALLIGATOR!

THESE ARE "ARRESTABLE" OFFENSES!

Enjoy these amazing creatures from a **safe distance, at least 30 feet**, and always keep the following points in mind...

- ❖ **DO NOT FEED ALLIGATORS!!!** It is against the law and it causes alligators to lose their natural fear of humans!
- ❖ **DO NOT feed ducks, turtles, fish or other wildlife.** This can draw alligators, as well as other predatory animals, to the area.
- ❖ **Keep children and pets away from the water.**
- ❖ **When cleaning fish, dispose of scraps in a waste receptacle, not in the water.**
- ❖ **Observe water areas closely before retrieving a golf ball.**
- ❖ **Keep a **safe distance**. Alligators can, and do, lunge/run.**
- ❖ **When photographing... keep a **safe distance** and use a zoom lens for close-ups.**

What you can do to help your trapper:

Most trappers understand you are very curious about alligators and the act of catching them, and most will be happy to share some information with you. That being said... there is a time, and a place.

- ⊘ **When we're actively "working" an alligator, especially a live gator, definitely not the time.**
- ⊘ **When you want to approach and/or follow us, as we work, definitely not the place.**

If your trapper needs information about a gator, he/she will ask. We have a job to do and we need to be focused on what we are doing. **Safety is a priority!** For ourselves and people in the area. YOU CAN HELP US, GREATLY, by giving us space and allowing us to concentrate on the task-at-hand.

Report wildlife violations to the [Wildlife Alert Hotline @ 888-404-3922](tel:888-404-3922) or [MyFWC.com/WildlifeAlert](https://www.MyFWC.com/WildlifeAlert)

Information and/or presentation by: Beth Hamm – FWC Licensed and Contracted Nuisance Alligator Trapper

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