



WHAT IS A BEACH WATCH AMBASSADOR?

Beach Ambassadors are volunteers who observe and report what is going on at our particular beach.

But Beach Ambassadors also watch out for those occasional individuals who may spoil the beach experience for others.

Because we are citizen volunteers, we are not authorized to intercede or detain persons we think are acting improperly.



Beach Ambassadors provide an avenue for beach regulars to get to know one another and to build a sense of community.

HOW DO I BECOME A BEACH WATCH AMBASSADOR?

Currently, our Beach Ambassador program is established at North Rincon (Bates) Beach, Hope Ranch/More Mesa Beach, and at Gaviota State Beach.

We hope to expand to other Santa Barbara beaches in the near future. To do that, we need additional volunteers, willing to devote some of their beach-going time to walking a foot patrol and then reporting what they see to local authorities if it seems appropriate to do so.

3-HOUR CERTIFICATION CLASSES ARE HELD MONTHLY

All applicants then are required to undergo a basic background check. Once the required training course is completed, the Director of Friends of Bates Beach has final approval of all appointments.

Once approved, Beach Ambassadors carry a distinctive form of identification: a hat with logo and/or a name medallion, to make them easily visible on the beach should a beachgoer have a problem or need a question answered.



Clear recognition of the presence of Beach Ambassadors on the beach can in itself go a long way toward maintaining a friendly family atmosphere at the beach.

For further information, contact:

FRIENDS OF BATES BEACH
WWW.FRIENDSOFBATESBEACH.ORG
(818) 225-2273

Friends of Bates Beach (FOBB), a non-profit organization based in Santa Barbara County. FOBB is a division of the Southern California Naturist Association, Calabasas, California

JOIN OUR BEACH WATCH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



And Earn Your Own Hat as a Proud Member of Our Team!

WHO WE ARE...

- **Volunteers** – We assume the care and mentorship of our assigned beach.
- **Diplomats** – We work to ensure the trust and mutual respect of visitors for the beach environment and its surroundings.
- **Committed** - We work within the law to establish behavior guideline standards so that no one person or group of people can ruin the beach experience for the others.

WHAT DO BEACH WATCH AMBASSADORS DO?

In practice far more time is spent on **providing information** and explaining the accepted standards of beach etiquette and courtesy.

We find one of our most effect tools to deter crime is simply **walking around**. People who want to break into cars, to sell drugs or paint graffiti on walls prefer to do it when nobody is around to watch it happen. Our very presence acts as a deterrent and sends a message to those on the beach that inappropriate behavior and crime will not be tolerated.

When we see a problem, **our job is to report** it to a park ranger, sheriff deputy, or city/county park personnel to make sure that problem receives a prompt and effective response.

It is NOT our role to enforce the law, but simply encourage people to do the right thing, and if not, to report our concerns to those in authority for their consideration and possible action.



Beach Ambassadors coordinate the annual **California Beach Cleanup** each **September** at our designated beaches.



Beach Ambassadors **observe and report** to the authorities when there is **suspicious activity** around vehicles.



Beach Ambassadors help the parks department **remove graffiti** from parking lots and sea walls.



By taking **good notes** on what we observe, Beach Ambassadors assist law enforcement in their investigation.



Beach Ambassadors gently remind dog owners to **pick up after their animal**. (Sometimes we also remind dog owners that county laws require they keep their **dogs on a leash**.)



A Beach Ambassador foot patrol is in the best position to notice and report **sick sea lions or other wounded wildlife** on the beach, or injured/sick people who may need immediate medical attention.

I ♥ Bates Beach
Carpinteria, California
friendsofbatesbeach.org (818) 225-2273