

## A Busy Start to the 2018 Sea Turtle Patrol Season

**Article and photos by Valerie Rohrig**

**The Emerald Isle Sea Turtle 2018 season hasn't even officially started, but our volunteers have been busy.**

**On Friday 3/9/18, more than 14 volunteers attended a 5 hour training session held at the NC Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores. It was a very informative meeting for Sea Turtle volunteers from around this region of the state. Topics that were covered during the workshop included DNA statistics gathered from the 2017 season, turtle strandings and cold stuns, plus possible treatments, issues for hatchlings from light sources on the beach and expectations from the state level.**

**On Saturday 3/10/18, many of these same Sea Turtle Patrol volunteers showed up very early in the morning to man a water station for the runners in the Emerald Isle Marathon. It was a chilly morning, but they kept the cheers loud and the water going to the runners!**

**Saturday, 3/17/18, found many volunteers manning the EI Sea Turtle Patrol booth at the St. Patrick's Day Festival. We had a great time meeting lots of visitors.**

**We are so thankful for ALL our dedicated volunteers!!!**