

## **DIAMONDBACK TERRAPIN TURTLES: On An Epic Journey**

### **Did You Know:**

Diamondback Terrapin Turtles are currently in their Nesting Season (mid-May to mid-July) – so please be on the look-out for female Terrapins crossing our busy roads as they search for nesting spots. Since only 1 out of 1000 Terrapin eggs hatch and reach adulthood, you can help them to thrive by driving slowly and safely breaking for turtles. Remember: Terrapins play a very important role in the local eco-system.

### **What You Can Do:**

If you see a turtle nesting anywhere in town, keep your distance and give her plenty of room to work. Then, please report any new turtle nest to Sea Isle Terrapin Rescue (263-7358) so they can place an “Anti-Predator” cage over the nest.

If you feel comfortable helping a turtle cross the road, please remember to carry her in the same direction she was traveling. Most importantly, always remember “**Safety First**” and use caution whenever you’re crossing a street.

If you see an injured turtle, please call Sea Isle Terrapin Rescue (263-7358) or the Wetlands Institute (609-368-1211) and tell them what you saw. They may be able to help the struggling Terrapin.

### **Check-Out the Turtle Gardens:**

Behind the Sea Isle City Library, located at 48<sup>th</sup> Street and the Bay, there are two new “Turtle Gardens” (man-made habitats, where female Terrapins can create nests). The Turtle Gardens can be viewed from the library’s second floor deck, but they are off-limits to people and pets – so please keep dogs out of the Turtle Gardens.

### **Baby Terrapin Release:**

At 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 25, Jugglefish Art Gallery & Studio on 63<sup>rd</sup> Street will host a special event featuring information about Terrapin Turtles and a “Turtle Art Project” for people of all ages. Afterwards, follow members of Sea Isle Terrapin Rescue on a short walk to the marshes behind Dealy Field, where baby Terrapin Turtles will be released into the wild. The rain date for this event is June 26. **PLEASE NOTE:** The time of this event has been changed from 9:30 to 9:00 a.m. on June 25.

