

# ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR MINDFUL BIRDERS



## 1 ARE YOU AWARE OF THE “BIRD” IN BIRDING?

The welfare of birds must come first. Bird-watchers and photographers should have no impact on birds. Respect birds' territories and keep a reasonable distance. Do not flush birds or try to make them fly.

- Wear muted, quiet clothing.
- Silence is golden! Talk in whispers. Avoid behavior that might distract other birders.
- Walk quietly, move slowly, no pets. Don't move dead branches or brush to see birds more clearly.
- Turn your cell phone to vibrate, or turn it off!

## 2 MIGRANT BIRDS NEED REST AND FOOD- IT'S BEEN A LONG JOURNEY!

## 3 DO NOT DISRUPT ANIMALS AND THEIR HABITATS.

Disturbances can prevent safe nest keeping and enable predation. Stay on designated paths, walk single-file.

## 4 PARK LAWFULLY IF BIRDING BY VEHICLE.

Pull completely off the road.

## 5 LASERS, FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY, AND CALL BACKS ARE PROHIBITED. IT'S DISTRESSING FOR THE BIRDS!

## 6 RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY.

## 7 FOLLOW RULES AND REGULATIONS OF PUBLIC AREAS.

## 8 WE RECOMMEND BRINGING GUIDEBOOKS, A NOTEBOOK OR JOURNAL, A PEN OR PENCIL, BINOCULARS, WATER, AND A BAG OR PACK TO EASILY CARRY YOUR ITEMS.

## 9 HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT ETHICAL BIRDING? REVIEW THE ABA CODE OF BIRDING ETHICS.

## 10 OUR BIRD OUTINGS ARE LED BY VOLUNTEERS- RESPECT YOUR GUIDE AND THANK THEM FOR THEIR TIME!