



Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

# CBC Newsletter

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## Join CBC in Litchfield Beach, SC for the Winter Meeting

January 17 through January 19, 2020

by Mac Williams, Meeting Planner

The Club will be heading out to Litchfield Beach, South Carolina for the 2020 Winter Meeting! We hope that you can join us and enjoy the interesting trips and programs we have scheduled from Friday, January 17 and running through Sunday, January 19.

On Friday evening, there will be a question-and-answer session with Aaron Given and Keith McCullough featuring light refreshments and a cash bar. Come and listen to two South Carolina eBird reviewers tell you everything you always wanted to know about eBird but were too afraid to ask the Carolina email list. Aaron will also answer questions about the Kiawah Island banding project that he oversees, and Keith can answer any Charleston County Parks questions you might have.



On Saturday evening we will enjoy a banquet and our keynote speaker, Dr. Christopher Hill, the Spivey Palmetto Associate Professor of Biology at Coastal Carolina University. Dr. Hill specializes in ornithology, and his research interests include bird mating systems and ecology along with water-bird biology. At various times in his career, he has used tools ranging from binoculars and field notebooks to an automated DNA sequencer to answer various questions in avian biology. He has published more than 15 peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals, and he also regularly publishes notes in other outlets ranging from newsletters of scientific societies to popular magazines. CBC Members might remember him from birding trips or for his famous "Gull Talk," which he will again give at our Saturday evening banquet. Don't miss it!



Laughing Gulls at HBSP  
by Deborah Roy

Our Field Trips will be both familiar and new. We will have several trips to Huntington Beach State Park. We'll also have trips to Myrtle Beach State Park, Santee Coastal Wildlife Management Area, and Bulls Island. We will again offer a trip to the Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center, normally closed to the public. We're again able to offer a trip to Waties Island on Saturday only. Waties is the northernmost barrier island in SC and it is one of the last untouched places in the state. If you didn't get a chance to go on this trip last time, be sure to sign up as soon as registration opens!

There will be an all-day "curlew" trip that the boat captain has requested that we not call a "curlew" trip. Additionally, there will be two New Birder field trips led by experienced birders, and one trip especially for Young Birders led by one of our most experienced former young birders. New this meeting, we're including an educational trip to the Center for Birds of Prey, down in Awendaw, SC.

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## **Join CBC in Litchfield Beach, SC for the Winter Meeting** *(Continued)*

A glance through the list of trips will show you that we've tried to offer trips to a variety of habitats, while still providing ample access to the most popular places that CBC members want to go.

Our host hotel and meeting headquarters is the Litchfield Beach Resort, 14276 Ocean Hwy, Pawleys Island, SC 29585. This hotel offers one-bedroom, one-bath suites with pool or lake views.

Please remember to check the schedule posted at registration for more details on all of the weekend's events. And any last minute changes and/or cancellations.

**We look forward to seeing everyone in Litchfield!**

In order to get the group rate, call **1-888-734-8228**, and when they ask for the Group ID, it's **BIRDCLUB20**.

Please note that they will charge one night's rate as a deposit.

If you cancel your reservation inside of 14 days before arrival, you'll lose your deposit.



## **Welcome New CBC Members!**

Jared & Heather Miles  
Charlotte, NC

Thomas & Anne Tkacs  
Mount Pleasant, GA

Terry Freel  
Salisbury, NC

Sharon & Mark Antoszyk  
Concord, NC

Robert & Susan Rolfe  
Columbia, SC

Laura Neale  
Fairfield, VA

Lesley Sercer  
Columbia, SC

Karen Lebing  
Waves, NC

Joe Tempel  
Pawleys Island, SC

Jim, Julian, Hugh & Courtney Buxton  
Mount Pleasant, SC

Aija & Ed Konrad  
Acworth, GA

Lisa & Kevin Keenan  
Mount Pleasant, SC

Douglas Sheppard  
Apex, NC

Nina Wallace  
Huntersville, NC

David Collins  
Ayden, NC

Gretchen Locy  
Fort Mill, SC

Melanie & Drew Gaddy  
Murrells Inlet, SC

Sue Ellen Ott  
Apex, NC

Lori Sheridan Wilson  
Mount Pleasant, SC

Steven Snipes  
Columbia, SC

Harold & Melissa Neems  
Wilmington, NC

Elisha Wall  
Greensboro, NC

Joan & Thomas Ellis  
Lansing, NY

Diane Bauknight  
Arden, NC



### **Opportunities for Young Birders**

Carolina Bird Club offers scholarships for birders 19 and under living in the Carolinas, who are members of the Carolina Young Birders Club.

Scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events, such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings.

For more information, visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)

# **CBC 2020 Winter Meeting**

## **Field Trip Schedule**

All meeting places for field trips are in the parking lot of Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort, unless otherwise noted. Please be at the meeting place ten minutes early. Times are departure times from the Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort, and late arrivals will be left. Carpooling is a necessity for all trips and please remember to reimburse drivers for their gasoline expenses.

<b>Friday, January 17, 2020</b>		<b>Saturday, January 18, 2020</b>	
<b>Friday All-day</b>		<b>Saturday All-day</b>	
<b>Trip 1:</b> Bulls Island Trip - 5:45 a.m. (boat departs from Garris Landing at 7:00 a.m. sharp)		<b>Trip 15:</b> Long-billed Curlew Trip - 8:00 a.m. (boat departs at 9:00 a.m. sharp from Jeremy Creek/McClellanville Boat Landing)	
<b>Trip 2:</b> Huntington Beach State Park w/jetty - 6:30 a.m.		<b>Trip 16:</b> Huntington Beach State Park Trip A - 7:00 a.m.	
<b>Trip 3:</b> Tom Yawkey Center - 6:20 a.m.		<b>Trip 17:</b> Santee Coastal Reserve - 6:00 a.m.	
<b>Trip 4:</b> Cherry Grove Pier/Heritage Shores/MBSP (the order will follow the tide) - 6:00 a.m.		<b>Trip 18:</b> Huntington Beach State Park Trip B - 7:30 a.m.	
		<b>Trip 19:</b> Bulls Island Trip - 5:45 a.m. (boat departs from Garris Landing at 7:00 a.m. sharp)	
<b>Friday Half-day Morning</b>		<b>Saturday Half-day Morning</b>	
<b>Trip 5:</b> HBSP Jetty - 7:00 a.m.		<b>Trip 20:</b> Waties Island - 6:00 a.m.	
<b>Trip 6:</b> Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge - 6:30 a.m.		<b>Trip 21:</b> Hemingway Sewage Treatment Ponds - 6:00 a.m.	
<b>Trip 7:</b> Lewis Ocean Bay - 7:15 a.m.		<b>Trip 22:</b> South Litchfield/South Pawley's Island - 7:00 a.m.	
<b>Trip 8:</b> Huntington Beach State Park - 7:30 a.m.		<b>Trip 23:</b> Huntington Beach State Park - 7:15 a.m.	
<b>Trip 9:</b> Brookgreen Gardens - 7:45 a.m.		<b>Trip 24:</b> Myrtle Beach State Park - 6:30 a.m.	
		<b>Trip 25:</b> New-to-birding Workshop, Huntington Beach State Park - 7:30 a.m.	
<b>Friday Half-day Afternoon</b>		<b>Saturday Half-day Afternoon</b>	
<b>Trip 10:</b> Conway Wastewater Treatment Plant & Lake Busbee - 1:00 p.m.		<b>Trip 26:</b> Huntington Beach State Park w/jetty - 1:00 p.m.	
<b>Trip 11:</b> Center for Birds of Prey in Awendaw, SC - 1:00 p.m.		<b>Trip 27:</b> Huntington Beach State Park (Young Birders) - 1:15 p.m.	
<b>Trip 12:</b> Huntington Beach State Park - 1:00 p.m.		<b>Trip 28:</b> Brookgreen Gardens - 1:00 p.m.	
<b>Trip 13:</b> New-to-birding Workshop, Huntington Beach State Park - 1:00 p.m.			
<b>Trip 14:</b> South Litchfield/South Pawley's Island - 1:00 p.m.			
<b>Sunday, January 19, 2020</b>			
<b>Sunday Morning</b>			
<b>Hotspots - To be announced</b>			

***\*\*Some trips and plans may change depending on conditions and bird patterns.***

**Registration begins December 7 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Register online at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org), for best availability of field trips.**

**Online registration closes January 11 at 8:00 a.m.**

# **2020 Winter Meeting Field Trip Descriptions**

## **Trip # 1 & 19 - Bulls Island (All-day, Friday)**

Bulls Island is a full-day boat trip for \$40 a head. Minimum = 10 people. The fee will be collected on board the ferry. They take cash, check, or credit card (bring lunch and water). We'll be walking on the island all day. The pearl of Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, Bulls Island, offers mud banks, saltwater marshes, beaches, freshwater impoundments, ponds, and upland habitats. This place is on anybody's list of the top five birding spots in South Carolina. We have arranged drop-off at the dock, then a hike up to Jack's Creek and the observation deck near the end of Sheepshead Ridge Road, and a hike back to the dock. This will be at least a 5.5 mile walk and is a moderate to heavy exertion effort, not to be taken lightly. The hike will be flat but on soft soil. Target birds include Canvasback and Redhead, Red-necked Grebe, potentially thousands of shorebirds, Piping Plover, Peregrine Falcon, American White Pelican, and more. Limit 15

Travel Time: 65 minutes

Facilities: None

Access conditions: Around 6 miles of moderate to heavy walking over different kinds of mostly flat terrain.

## **Trip #2, 16, & 18 - Huntington Beach State Park (All-day, Friday & Saturday, \$5 per person state park fee)**

This trip will cover the jetty at Huntington Beach State Park, together with the nearby tidal creeks and flats, plus the causeway, Mullet Pond, the education center, salt marsh boardwalk and Sandpiper Pond. The jetty is one of the best places in the state to find wintering Purple Sandpipers and Common Eider, Razorbill, Long-tailed Duck, Northern Gannets, and all three North American scoters. The main drawback to visiting the jetty is that it is nearly a 3 mile walk, round-trip, along the beach from the north parking lot. Bring water and lunch. Some food is available in the park store. Limit: 16

Travel Time: 10 minutes

Facilities: Yes

Access conditions: Walking all day, walking multiple miles on loose sand. Participants should be able to walk more than four miles in a day.

## **Trip # 3 - Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center (All-day, Friday)**

This area is a SC Heritage Preserve and administered by the Department of Natural Resources. Public access can be rather limited, so we are excited to offer a full-day trip to this fantastic birding area. Target birds include American Avocet, American White Pelican, Tundra Swan, Barn Owl, lots of waterfowl, shorebirds, rails, raptors, Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, sparrows and more! Observation towers provide a panoramic view of the south Santee River Delta and surrounding area. This trip makes for a long day, but what a day it will be there! Note that space will be limited, so if you are hoping to go on this trip, register early! Bring food and water. Limit: 11

Limit: 11

Travel Time: 40 minutes

Facilities: Yes

Access conditions: Ferry over to island

## **Trip # 4 - Cherry Grove Pier and Marsh, Heritage Shores, and Myrtle Beach State Park- (All-day, Friday, up to \$10 in access fees per person) - 6:30 a.m.**

We will ocean watch for pelagics, sea ducks, etc. from the Cherry Grove Pier which is the northernmost publicly accessible pier in the state. We will also visit Heritage Shores Nature Preserve in Cherry Grove for marsh birds, and Myrtle Beach State Park. The order in which we visit each location will be determined by the weather and the tides. That time of year, alcids can often be seen from the piers we'll be visiting, with many coming close enough to shore to be photographed!

Limit: 15

Travel Time: 60 minutes

Facilities: Yes

Access conditions: Moderate walking

## **2020 Winter Meeting Field Trip Descriptions/continued**

### **Trip #5 & 26 - Huntington Beach SP Jetty (Half-day, Friday & Saturday, \$5 per person state park fee)**

This trip will walk to the jetty and the nearby tidal creeks and flats. The jetty is one of the best places in the state to find wintering Purple Sandpipers and scoters. Rarities are regular here and with luck we may find such species as Common Eider, Razorbill, and Long-Tailed Duck.

Limit: 16

Travel Time: 10 minutes

Facilities: Yes

Access conditions: At least 3 miles of walking on beach to and from jetty

### **Trip #6 - Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge (Half-day, Friday)**

This trip visits the Cox Ferry Recreational Area where it's possible to see most of our resident woodland passerines, as well as winter migrants. Target species include sparrows, woodcock, raptors, and waterfowl.

Limit: 15

Travel Time: 40 minutes

Facilities: None

Access conditions: Moderate walking

### **Trip # 7 - Lewis Ocean Bay Heritage Preserve (Half-day, Friday)**

This 9,000 acre preserve includes 23 Carolina Bays. The preserve is classified as an IBA by Audubon. The chief target birds will be Red-cockaded Woodpeckers and other species associated with pine savannas. The state's largest population of Black Bears occurs here as well as numerous rare plants including the Venus Flytrap. The trip will be led by a Coastal Carolina University professor who conducts research at the site.

Limit: 15

Travel Time: 45 minutes

Facilities: None

Access conditions: Moderate Walking

### **Trips # 8, 12, & 23 - Huntington Beach State Park (Half-day, Friday & Saturday, \$5 per person state park fee)**

In the wintertime, one of the best ways to see a large variety of birds is to explore the different habitats in close proximity to one another within the southern end of "HBSP." As the top birding spot along the Grand Strand, and arguably South Carolina, multiple trips will run in the park at the same time. Each leader will discuss with the group where they would like to go, but the leader's decisions must be respected. An example of a trip might begin at Mallard Pond Causeway, moving to the trail behind the visitor's center, connecting to the former carriage trail, observing the mallard pond, moving toward the Atalaya building and its secluded access to the beach, and ending back in the Visitor's Center parking lot. Others might visit the marsh boardwalk and the Sandpiper Trail. Only trips that specifically mention the jetty (and its mile-and-a-third-each-way walk) will visit the jetty.

Limit: 16

Travel Time: 10 minutes

Facilities: Yes, minimal concessions at Park HQ

Access conditions: Moderate walking

### **Trips # 9 & 28 - Brookgreen Gardens (Half-day, Friday & Saturday, \$18 fee)**

Participants will spend the afternoon exploring beautiful statuary gardens and wonderful open woodland habitat for a variety of birds including ducks, rails, bitterns, wading birds, wintering passerines, Great Horned & Barred Owls, Bald Eagles, etc.

Limit: 16

Travel Time: 8 minutes

Facilities: Yes

Access conditions: Moderate walking

## **2020 Winter Meeting Field Trip Descriptions/continued**

### **Trip #10 - Conway Wastewater Treatment Ponds and Lake Busbee (Half-day, Friday)**

The wastewater treatment ponds by former Lake Busbee is the best “crappy” birding spot in the area. After checking the ponds for a wide range of ducks and shorebirds, we will walk the path around former Lake Busbee for more waterfowl and a good variety of sparrows. Hopefully the Bald Eagles will nest there again as well.

Limit: 15

Travel Time: 40 minutes

Facilities: None

Access conditions: Moderate walking

### **Trip # 11 - Center for Birds of Prey in Awendaw, SC (Half-day, Friday p.m., \$18 entrance fee)**

This educational trip will visit the Raptor Center in Awendaw, SC that rehabilitates injured raptors and either releases them back into the wild or gives them a permanent home. The visit will include a presentation on the Center’s mission, as well as visits to the oiled-bird treatment facility and the medical facility, but, most importantly, you’ll see large birds of prey up close, allowing you to appreciate the beauty of each species currently receiving care and to appreciate the critical need for places like this. CBC members are welcome to bird the Center’s property as well.

Limit: 30

Travel Time: 70 minutes

Facilities: Yes

Access conditions: Light Walking

### **Trips #13 & 25 - New-to-Birding workshop. (Half-day, Friday & Saturday, \$5 per person state park fee)**

This is for those new to birding or those who just want a refresher. You will visit Huntington Beach State Park looking and listening for birds in a variety of habitats. Additional focus will be placed on bird behavior and identification techniques.

Limit: 16

Travel Time: 10 minutes

Facilities: Yes

Access conditions: Moderate walking

### **Trips #14 & 22 - South Litchfield Beach (Half-day, Friday & Saturday p.m.)**

Located near our hotel. This beach is located south of Huntington Beach SP. We will search the causeway leading to the beach which is an excellent place to observe rails. From the parking lot, we will walk up to 1.3 miles of the beach where we may see a variety of shorebirds. Gannets, loons, grebes, sea ducks, cormorants, gulls, terns, etc. may be also seen on our walk. On the western side of the island, we may find plovers, skimmers, and sandpipers.

Limit: 15

Travel Time: 15 minutes

Facilities: None

Access conditions: Walking on beach

### **Trip #15 - “Not-a-Long-billed-Curlew” Trip (All-day, Saturday only, \$45 per person; boats seats up to 40, minimum of 25)**

This trip visits Raccoon Key and Lighthouse Island in a covered boat with windows that lower. The boat holds up to 40 passengers. Our target birds include the Curlew, Whimbrels, godwits, ducks, plovers, American Oystercatcher, Peregrine Falcon, and more. We usually see Nelson’s, Seaside, and Saltmarsh Sparrows. The boat captain has requested that we not call this trip the “Curlew” trip so as not to disappoint participants if we don’t find any, so, let’s all please manage our expectations accordingly.

Limit: 40

Travel Time: 50 minutes

Facilities: None

Access conditions: All-day boat trip may be very cold, wet, and windy. Individuals subject to seasickness should prepare themselves for winter water conditions.

## **2020 Winter Meeting Field Trip Descriptions/continued**

### **Trip # 17- Santee Coastal Reserve (All-day, Saturday)**

Santee Coastal Reserve has certain portions that are closed by statute during this year's meeting. This trip will include all of the areas accessible to the public during the winter months. Expect lots of waterfowl and wading birds, hawks, American White Pelicans, Wood Storks, probable rails, sparrows, raptors, Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, Barn Owls if we are lucky, plenty of Bald Eagles, and in 2004, a Golden Eagle was spotted there.

Limit: 16

Travel Time: 45 minutes

Facilities: None

Access: Moderate walking all day

### **Trip #20 - Waties Island (Half-day, Saturday 6:15 a.m.)**

Waties Island is one of the last undeveloped barrier islands on the S.C. coast. A true oasis in comparison to the Grand Strand. Saved for generations by one family, Waties is now preserved by a conservation easement and is host to research projects by the faculty and students of Coastal Carolina University. Bring food and water.

Limit: 20

Travel Time: 70 minutes

Facilities: None

Access: Moderate walking, including beach walking

### **Trip # 21 - Hemingway Sewage Treatment Ponds & Johnsonville Sand Pits (Half-day, Saturday)**

This trip includes a visit, with permission, to the Hemingway Sewage Treatment Ponds, the top birding spot in Williamsburg County, South Carolina, with 18 different waterfowl species reported during the month of January. Shorebirds and passerines are also expected, but seeing large rafts of different kinds of ducks inland and up close is the highlight of this trip. If time allows, a visit to the seldom-birded Johnsonville Sand Pits is planned. Please note that the aromas surrounding the sewage treatment ponds can be strong, pungent, and at-times even piquant.

Limit: 15

Travel Time: 60 minutes (please carpool as much as possible)

Facilities: In the town of Hemingway there are a couple of fast food restaurants & a Food Lion

Access conditions: Moderate walking

### **Trip #24 - Myrtle Beach State Park (Half-day, Saturday, \$5 per person state park fee - not per car)**

We begin at the pier to look for loons, cormorants, gannets, horned grebes, gulls, terns, and hopefully some alcid, etc. The pier also has restrooms, coffee, snacks, etc. Next, we will bird the maritime forest and ponds which may yield Blue-headed Vireo, Yellow-throated Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, and other wintering passerines. The pond may have some waterfowl. We will also look for bittern, rails, and sparrows.

Limit: 15

Travel Time: 35 minutes

Facilities: Yes

Access conditions: Moderate Walking

### **Trip # 27 - Young Birders HBSP (Half-day, \$5 per person state park fee)**

This trip is specifically for young birders and their families, though others are welcome if there is room the day of the trip. You will visit Huntington Beach State Park looking and listening for birds in a variety of habitats, choosing destinations according to the trip leader's research (and maybe a hunch or two).

Limit: 16

Travel Time: 10 minutes

Facilities: Yes

Access conditions: Moderate walking

For further details check the trip listings at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)

# Supplies You Should Have in Your Field Bag

by *Melissa Mayntz (for everythingbirds.com)*  
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No matter what season it is, where you plan to go birding, or what birds you hope to see, it is important to carry the right supplies in your field bag. Being prepared with the proper gear means easier, safer, and more enjoyable birding. But exactly what should be in your bag?

## Essential Birding Supplies

Every birder has different preferences for what gear to carry, but some items are essential for every type of birding, no matter your experience level.

### Field Guide

You will always need a suitable reference for bird identification. Portable, lightweight field guides covering local or regional species are best. There are also a range of online and downloadable field guide apps that can be excellent options for helping you identify every bird you see.

### Binoculars

You can't identify birds that you can't see. Birding binoculars should always be in your field bag or worn on a strap or harness for easy accessibility. Monoculars can also be a good option, and depending on the type of birding you do or where you go, a spotting scope may be your best optical choice.

### Notebook

Whether you want to take paper notes about the birds you see, make sketches, or just keep a basic sightings list, a notebook will help you keep track of your birding adventures. You can do this with a birding journal, a simple pad of paper, or a notes or text app on a tablet or smartphone.

### Identification

Birders should always carry proper identification in the field. This is especially important when birding near private or protected lands, when authorities may request identification to ensure there is no

improper use of the area. Birders in foreign lands may also want to carry a passport or copies of visa papers just in case.



## Other Important Supplies

While few supplies may be needed if you are an experienced birder visiting an area you are very familiar with, many other supplies are equally important to help you be safe and comfortable while birding. You definitely should find room in your field bag for these types of items.

### Camera

Many birders use a camera to create a visual list of birds they've seen, and photos can also help with identification by comparing photos to field guides. Along with your camera, be sure you have extra batteries, memory cards, and other accessories.

### Water

Staying hydrated can make a big difference for your comfort while birding, particularly in dry climates or on hot days. Bring a bottle of water, juice, or sports drink to stay refreshed, but limit diuretic drinks that can make you thirstier, such as alcohol, coffee, or caffeinated teas.

### Protective Products

Depending on the weather conditions and where you will be birding, different protective products can be either essential or highly recommended for comfort. Sunscreen, insect repellent, and SPF-rated lip balm are all good choices to add to your field bag.



## **Supplies You Should Have in Your Field Bag/continued**

### **Protective Clothing**

In addition to protective products, protective clothing can also be useful. A broad-brimmed hat, long-sleeved jacket, sunglasses, rain poncho, rubber boots, and similar attire can help protect you in different habitats and field conditions.

### **Snacks**

If you're hungry, you may not pay as much attention to birds and could be tempted to stop birding early. Bringing along nutritious, high-energy snacks such as trail mix, fruit, a granola bar, or cheese and crackers to keep up your birding strength.

### **Trail Map**

Trails can begin to look alike after you spend several hours birding, especially if you're in an unfamiliar area or a preserve you don't know well. Bring a trail map to keep yourself oriented. Or, snap a photo of a map at the trailhead so you have an instant reference.



### **Tissues**

A small pack of tissues or wet wipes can be very useful, not just for wiping your hands, but for wiping off a sudden splash on your field guide, camera, or optics. In a pinch, tissues can also be invaluable if restroom facilities may not be available or as well-kept as you'd prefer.

### **Cleaning Tools**

A smear across the lens of your camera or binoculars might interrupt a view or ruin a photo. A microfiber cloth, cleaning brush, or specialty wipes can help you keep your equipment in peak condition for optimal viewing.

### **Medication**

A small supply of basic medication can help keep you comfortable so you don't have to stop birding early. Add allergy pills, aspirin, or other medications to your field bag to stay healthy and fit for birding.

### **Emergency Supplies**

You never know when the unexpected might happen, even if you're birding in an area you've visited many times before. Having emergency supplies available can make a critical difference to keep you safe until help arrives. If you don't have these items in your field bag, they ought to be handy in your vehicle or another pack you can access:

- Flashlight
- Flares or emergency lights
- Extra socks and gloves
- First aid kit
- Lighter or matches
- Compass
- Multi-tool or pocketknife
- Whistle
- Emergency blanket
- Spare car key

The exact supplies you carry in your field bag will vary depending on where you are birding, the conditions of the habitat, your level of birding experience, your physical condition, the season, local climate, and other factors. Understanding which supplies are absolutely essential, which you ought to have, and what should be available for emergencies can help you pack your field bag with everything you need for safe, comfortable, well-prepared birding.



Interesting in sharing your "How I Got Into Birding" story?  
Please send your completed story to [newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org).

We are so fortunate to have such amazing birds and biodiversity around us. We cannot take wildlife for granted and it is our responsibility to care and show respect for the natural world – whether that be the birds themselves, their habitats, food, or behaviors – in our actions and values. Please practice the birding ethics and etiquette below in your daily lives and represent CBC as ethical birders!

# ABA Code of Ethics

## American Birding Association Principles of Birding Ethics

### 1. Promote the welfare of birds and their environment.

**1(a)** Support the protection of important bird habitat.

**1(b)** To avoid stressing birds or exposing them to danger, exercise restraint and caution during observation, photography, sound recording, or filming.

Limit the use of recordings and other methods of attracting birds, and never use such methods in heavily birded areas or for attracting any species that is Threatened, Endangered, or of Special Concern, or is rare in your local area.

Keep well back from nests and nesting colonies, roosts, display areas, and important feeding sites. In such sensitive areas, if there is a need for extended observation, photography, filming, or recording, try to use a blind or hide, and take advantage of natural cover.

Use artificial light sparingly for filming or photography, especially for close-ups.

**1(c)** Before advertising the presence of a rare bird, evaluate the potential for disturbance to the bird, its surroundings, and other people in the area, and proceed only if access can be controlled, disturbance can be minimized, and permission has been obtained from private landowners. The sites of rare nesting birds should be divulged only to the proper conservation authorities.

**1(d)** Stay on roads, trails, and paths where they exist; otherwise keep habitat disturbance to a minimum.

### 2. Respect the law and the rights of others.

**2(a)** Do not enter private property without the owner's explicit permission.

**2(b)** Follow all laws, rules, and regulations governing use of roads and public areas, both at home and abroad.

**2(c)** Practice common courtesy in contacts with other people. Your exemplary behavior will generate goodwill with birders and non-birders alike.

### 3. Ensure that feeders, nest structures, and other artificial bird environments are safe.

**3(a)** Keep dispensers, water, and food clean and free of decay or disease. It is important to feed birds continually during harsh weather.

**3(b)** Maintain and clean nest structures regularly.

**3(c)** If you are attracting birds to an area, ensure the birds are not exposed to predation from cats and other domestic animals, or dangers posed by artificial hazards.

**Group birding, whether organized or impromptu, requires special care.**

Each individual in the group, in addition to the obligations spelled out in Items #1 and #2, has responsibilities as a Group Member.

**4(a)** Respect the interests, rights, and skills of fellow birders, as well as those of people participating in other legitimate outdoor activities. Freely share your knowledge and experience, except where code 1(c) applies. Be especially helpful to beginning birders.

**4(b)** If you witness unethical birding behavior, assess the situation and intervene if you think it prudent. When interceding, inform the person(s) of the inappropriate action and attempt, within reason, to have it stopped. If the behavior continues, document it and notify appropriate individuals or organizations.

### 4. Group Leader Responsibilities [amateur and professional trips and tours]

**4(c)** Be an exemplary ethical role model for the group. Teach through word and example.

**4(d)** Keep groups to a size that limits impact on the environment and does not interfere with others using the same area.

**4(e)** Ensure everyone in the group knows of and practices this code.

**4(f)** Learn and inform the group of any special circumstances applicable to the areas being visited (e.g. no sound devices allowed).

**4(g)** Acknowledge that professional tour companies bear a special responsibility to place the welfare of birds and the benefits of public knowledge ahead of the company's commercial interests. Ideally, leaders should keep track of tour sightings, document unusual occurrences, and submit records to appropriate organizations.

### Please follow this code. Distribute it and teach it to others.

Additional copies of the Code of Birding Ethics can be obtained from ABA. The ABA Code of Birding Ethics may be reprinted, reproduced, and distributed without restriction. Please acknowledge the role of ABA in developing and promoting this code.

# Litchfield Beach, SC Registration Form

Registration Begins December 7, 2019 @ 2pm. Register online for

Best Availability of Field Trips at

[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Field Trip Sign-Up	A.M. 1st/2nd Choice	P.M. 1st/2nd Choice	All Day 1st/2nd Choice
Friday	/	/	/
Saturday	/	/	/

Meeting Registration (Member) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration (Non-Member \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Buffet Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian option \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting registration at the door costs \$40.

**Make check payable to Carolina Bird Club and send to:  
CBC, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374**

Club policy requires all field trip participants to comply with the field trip leader's assessment and requests concerning the physical ability of each participant to make or complete the trip.

I will release and discharge (and will not make a claim against) the Carolina Bird Club for injury, death, or property damage arising from my participation at this meeting and/or Club field trips. This release of liability is entered into on behalf of all members of my family, including all minors accompanying me. I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of any such minors and that I am over 18 years of age.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Processing of mail-in registrations will not begin until online registration opens.

**Pre-Registration ends January 11, 2020**  
**Cancellations will be refunded if received by 6pm on January 3, 2020**

Cancel by contacting the Headquarters Secretary at [hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org).



Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

**Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**  
**1809 Lakepark Drive**  
**Raleigh, NC 27612**

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## Upcoming CBC Meetings

**Winter** - Litchfield, SC - January 16-19, 2020

**Spring** - Black Mountain, NC - April 30-May 3, 2020

### CBC Board Members

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lewisburkej@yahoo.com

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Guy McGrane, Deep Gap, NC  
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**Headquarters Secretary:** Carol Bowman, Pinehurst, NC,  
**hq@carolinabirdclub.org**

**CBC Newsletter Editor:** Deborah McDougall Roy, Charlotte, NC,  
**newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org**

**Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of  
December, February, April, June, August, and October.**

**[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)**

The *CBC Newsletter* is published bimonthly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Founded in 1937, the membership is open to anyone interested in birds, natural history, and conservation. **Current dues are:** Individual & non-profit, \$30; Family and Business, \$35; Student, \$15; Patron, \$50 and up; Life, \$500; Associate Life (in household with Life Member), \$100 (both Life memberships can be paid in four annual installments).

**Membership dues** include access to publications: the *CBC Newsletter* and *The Chat*, which is only available on line. Tax deductible as allowable by law.

**Cost for CBC bird checklists**, including postage: 10@\$5.45, 25@\$13.40, 50@\$27.00, and 100@\$54.00.

**Join the CBC** at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/dues/>. Enter change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile/>. Order checklists from: CBC Headquarters Secretary, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374. Copyright © 2019.