

Guidelines and Procedures for SLAS Field Trips and Beginner Walks

Effective August 2021

For the fall season, 2021, St. Louis Audubon Society is resuming its field trips, following the measures described here. These are meant to insure everyone's health and safety when gathering as a group, while recognizing that participants bear some responsibility for handling their own situations safely. These will be modified as conditions change.

1. All participants on SLAS field trips and beginner bird walks must register in advance. Field trips and beginner bird walks are listed in the Calendar of Events found [here](#).
2. In view of the COVID-19 resurgence, we require every participant to be fully vaccinated (two doses of Pfizer or Moderna, one of Johnson & Johnson). *This allows everyone on the trips to be more relaxed and sure of their own safety. SLAS will not usually request formal documentation, but participants will be required to check a certification box, upon registration, verifying that they have been fully vaccinated for at least two weeks prior to the trip. This includes participants 12 and over. Children under 12 must be accompanied by a vaccinated adult and wear a mask at all times.
3. Most field trips will be scheduled for no more than 4 hours and will not include lunch. Participants should bring their own snacks and drinks. Exceptions (longer trips) will be noted. Beginner bird walks are generally an hour and half in length.
4. Social distancing will be expected to the extent possible.
5. Masks will not be required outdoors, but we encourage anyone to wear a mask if they wish. All participants should bring a mask along for times when we may go indoors (e.g., the Audubon Center, a gas station, or some other public area).
6. As noted in point 1 above, participants must register online, in advance. Participation will be limited to 20 registrants in addition to the leaders for our regular field trips. Beginner bird walks generally allow for larger groups. In the case of half-day field trips we request that individuals sign up initially for no more than four of the available trips to allow as many people as possible to participate.
7. On-line registration will include:
 - a. Contact information so we may keep registrants informed of various details (weather, location, etc.). This information will also be used for contact tracing purposes in the event of an exposure to Covid-19.
 - b. A check box to certify vaccination status (see #2).
 - c. A waiver releasing SLAS from liability
8. In the case of field trips with driving to multiple sites, carpooling is optional.

*Though exceptions to the vaccination requirement will be rare, reasonable accommodations may be made for those who can demonstrate they are unable to be vaccinated for medical or religious reasons. This will be handled on a case-by-case basis. If an exception is granted, participants will be required to wear a mask and practice social distancing.