

## **Guidelines and Procedures for SLAS Field Trips and Beginner Walks**

Effective August 2022

For the fall season, 2022, St. Louis Audubon Society is following the measures described here for its birding field trips. These reflect the general Covid-19 policy approved by the Board in February, 2022. See [COVID-19 Policy](#).

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](#). Pre-registration allows us to contact everyone easily either before or after a trip, and to maintain limits on the size of the group.
2. Most field trips will be scheduled for about 4-5 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 a half to two hours in length.
3. Per the general policy linked above, and with a Covid-19 case rate that is currently in the “high” zone, we expect participants in field trips to be up to date in their vaccination status.
4. Social distancing will still be expected to the extent possible.
5. Masks will not be required but may be worn at the participant’s discretion. We do urge everyone to bring a mask along for times when we visit an indoor location that may require it or recommend it (such as the Audubon Center).
6. Participation in field trips will generally be limited to 20 registrants in addition to the leaders. The online registration will let people know if the trip is full. Beginner bird walks often allow for larger groups.
7. On-line registration will include the following: (a) contact information so we may keep registrants informed of various details before the trip (weather, location, etc.) and send them a report with bird lists after the trip. (b) A waiver releasing SLAS from liability.
8. In the case of field trips that involve driving from a meeting point to one or more other locations, carpooling from the first meeting point is optional; no one will be expected to carpool against their wishes. The leaders may request that people consider it, however, as it reduces the size of the “caravan” and sometimes the parking problem that results.