



ETHICAL NATURE VIEWING

To wildlife, we are seen as predators. Our presence and actions can cause harmful physiological and behavioral changes to the animals we hope to see. We need to be careful with our behaviour, so we don't unintentionally harm the animals we love.

We can prioritize nature by following these best practices:

- Learn about the natural behavior, habitat, and signs of stress for the species you will be viewing.
 - Avoid getting too close. Use binoculars.
- Don't do anything that would change an animal's natural behavior.
- Stay 100 meters from nests/dens and 2-3 bus lengths from large mammals.
 - Avoid using playback of bird calls to draw birds closer.
 - Don't feed any wildlife.
 - Never follow animals — allow them to move away from you.
 - Don't startle animals on purpose or flush them from their cover.
 - Walk only on designated trails, taking nothing and leaving nothing.
- For species-at-risk and threatened species: use special care, don't share locations, and consider not visiting them at all.
 - Learn more — <https://tfngo.to/wildlifedisturbance>



This is just one of the nature issues that the Toronto Field Naturalists care about. If you have a passion for nature, join us! Visit www.torontofieldnaturalists.org/join for more information.