



Shorebirds and seabirds have declined 70% in the last 40 years due to:

Habitat Loss

Human/dog Disturbance

Climate Change

Effective stewardship significantly reduces the impact of human/ dog disturbance



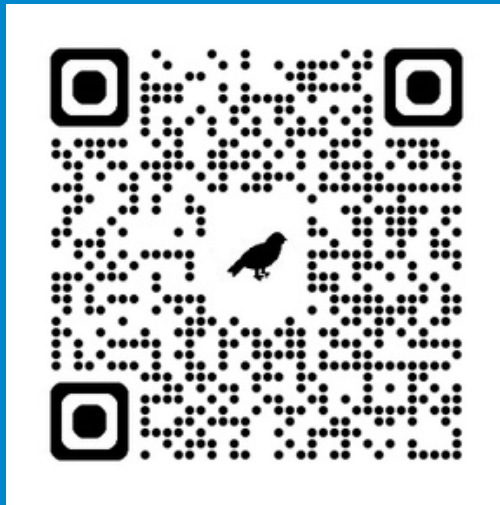
March-August  
Shorebirds nest directly on the beach above the hightide line and below the grass

September - February  
Migratory and wintering shorebirds arrive on the beach to feed and rest at water's edge

## HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Visit:

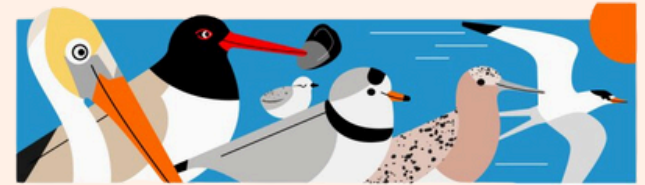
<https://sc.audubon.org/conservation/how-be-shorebird-steward>



1. Choose a site
2. Attend a training in person or online
3. Sign the liability waiver
4. Sign up for shifts

Questions?

email: [abigail.burke@audubon.org](mailto:abigail.burke@audubon.org)



Share the Shore 

## HOW TO BECOME A SHOREBIRD STEWARD



Stewards at Folly Beach: Charlie Stricklin, Rufus Jones, Alice Belanger

 Audubon | SOUTH CAROLINA

[sc.audubon.org/conservation/coasts](https://sc.audubon.org/conservation/coasts)

# WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

✦ The role of a steward is to educate beachgoers on shorebirds in the area and the steps they can take to help protect the shorebirds. Steps include leashing pets, walking around flocks, and staying out of closed areas

✦ Shifts are 1-4 hours long, usually on weekends depending on the site

✦ Most shifts are during breeding season from March-August but some sites host stewards for migrating and wintering seasons from August-February



Bette Popillo

# WHY IS STEWARDSHIP IMPORTANT?

Threatened shorebirds and seabirds rely solely on beach habitat to nest, raise their young, and feed. Humans also enjoy using the beach for recreational activities, most of which disturb shorebirds and can result in the loss of their nests and chicks.



photo by Lindsay Addison

Often, beachgoers are not aware of these small camouflaged birds and that their actions could be harming them. The education and engagement provided by a shorebird steward encourages beachgoers to change their behavior and ultimately save the lives of threatened shorebirds.



Red Knots by Walker Golder

Wilson's Plover courtesy of Florida's Forgotten Coast



Audubon South Carolina in partnership with other organizations hosts stewards at **12 different beaches** throughout the state

- Huntington Beach State Park
- Dewees Island
- Isle of Palms
- Folly Lighthouse Inlet
- Morris Island
- Botany Bay
- Edisto Beach
- Seabrook Island
- Kiawah Island
- Harbor Island
- Hunting Island State Park
- Bull Point

