Code of Conduct and Camp Rules



Last Updated: 08 February 2021

Participants on EcoTraining courses are expected to adhere to the following code of conduct:

- Treat fellow course participants, EcoTraining staff and the environment with respect
- Be impartial and unbiased towards fellow participants and EcoTraining staff
- In no way discriminate against fellow participants and EcoTraining staff on any basis, e.g., race, gender, ethnicity, nationality, physical challenge, age, etc.
- Be punctual, reliable, honest, conscientious, and tactful always
- Deal with conflict in a sensitive and responsible manner
- Report any incident of injury immediately to the EcoTraining staff
- At no time be under the influence of alcohol or a narcotic substance while participating in any course activity
- Be always concerned for the safety of fellow course participants and EcoTraining staff
- Be suitably dressed and presentable at all times
- Be a responsible driver when driving as a guide

To make your stay with EcoTraining as enjoyable and as safe as possible, please take note of the following and always keep in mind:

- The camp is in an unfenced area, where there is freedom of movement of wild animals. It is important to remember that these animals are wild and should be respected at all times. Never become complacent in the camp areas and never wander from the safe zones of the camp. These zones will be explained by your instructor. Always use a headlamp or torch at night, and do not walk around unnecessarily at night.
- If you are in possession of a firearm, this should be handed in to your instructor at the beginning of the course. He will ensure that it is kept in a safe place until you need it again.
- Any valuables or extra cash can be locked away in the safe. Please ask your instructor about this.
- No course participants are allowed to drive around the reserves in their private vehicles. All private vehicles are to be left in the designated areas.
- No fires should be started anywhere on the property except in the designated areas.
- Keep the camp clean and neat.
- Your tents/rooms will be cleaned and swept out daily, but ultimately, the cleanliness of your tent/room is your responsibility.
- We do not allow the playing of any amplified music, movies, and calls etc which can interfere with the ambience of the natural environment and disturb other individuals in the camp. You may use headphones. We do allow the playing of musical instruments.
- Remember that the use of cell phones can impact on your fellow course participants' experience in the bush. We do not allow the use of cell phones during any activities (walking or vehicle) or where camps do have reception, during lecture times

- Use of electronic equipment for learning bird and/or frog calls is to be done with headphones as continual audible calls will have an unethical impact on the local birds and frogs.
- If you are a smoker, please be aware of how your smoking affects other people. We do not allow smoking in the tents, kitchen, study deck, vehicles or on outings into the bush. We assume that you care for the environment that you are learning about, so please do not leave your cigarette butts anywhere other than in the designated rubbish bin in the smoking area.
- The consumption of alcohol is permitted in our training camps, in moderation, and according to strict EcoTraining guidelines. Drunken and disorderly behaviour will not be tolerated and will result in expulsion from the course.
- No participant is allowed to bring any alcohol in to the EcoTraining camps (or any 3rd party venue that EcoTraining makes use of)
- No hard liquor is allowed to be consumed in the EcoTraining camps (or any 3rd party venue that EcoTraining makes use of)
- The use of any illegal substances is not allowed and if detected, will result in expulsion from the course.
- Please respect the privacy of your fellow course participants.
- Every effort is made to cater to the dietary requirements of all the participants on our courses. If you feel the need to address this, please speak to the camp coordinator who will address it with the kitchen staff.
- Access to kitchen food supplies is restricted to staff and duty students on 'day of duty'
- Camps do not have electricity and use of the generator to charge equipment is at your own risk. Camps will have a roster for charging times.
- Should any items belonging to EcoTraining be damaged by any course participant due to negligence, then that participant will be responsible for the replacement of damaged items.
- All course participants have access to a comprehensive library of reference books. These books must be handled with care and sensitivity. Please do not keep books in your tents, and please ensure that books are returned to the bookshelf once you have finished working with them.
- Washing will be done by EcoTraining staff, at a cost. Please ask your instructor for the price.
- Camp specific rules will be discussed with you by the instructor and are to be always abided by.
- Should any course participant have any problems with any aspect of the course, the camp, or the staff, please feel free to report to the instructor or camp coordinator. Should this not prove sufficient, please do not hesitate or delay to call the EcoTraining office on 013 752 4791 so that any issues you may have can be dealt with immediately so that you can continue to enjoy your course.

Camp Evacuation Procedures

In the event of a serious fire, a whistle will be blown continuously, until all camp occupants are accounted for.

When this whistle is heard (with the call of Fire), please take shoes/boots and the nearest fire extinguisher and proceed immediately to the central communal area. You will then be advised on any further action, with evacuation departure point being the vehicle garage area.

<u>In the event of a flood</u>, whistle will be blown continuously. In this situation, earlier warnings and instructions would have been verbally issued to all.

When this whistle is heard, please take shoes/boots and the items that you have been instructed to take and proceed immediately to the central communal area.

From here, everything will be assessed, and action commenced to evacuate everyone from the camp in the vehicles.