DOG-FREE BEACHES *KEEP TINY CHICKS SAFE*

In spring and summer, Long Island's beaches become a nursery for federally and state protected birds like the Piping Plover and Least Tern.

They need your help to survive!





Even small, well-trained dogs can crush fragile eggs or scare off parents, exposing tiny chicks to predators. Piping Plover chicks will leave the nest to forage within a few hours of hatching but can't fly for a few weeks.

Responsible dog-owners can help #ShareTheShore

ny.audubon.org

See reverse side

TINY CHICKS FACE BIG OBSTACLES LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP

Pet laws vary from site to site. Before heading to the beach, please visit the park or town's website to see if dogs are allowed.



Walk around (not through) flocks of birds and far from nesting area boundaries.



Look out for signage and roped-off areas that indicate there are nesting birds nearby.



Follow "no pet" rules at beaches with nesting birds, or keep your dog on a leash if allowed.







Photos, front: Least Terns, Jeffrey Bernier/Audubon Photography Awards; dog chasing, Jim Verhagen. Back: Piping Plover chick, Seren Bagcilar; Sanderling, Pat Ulrich/Audubon Photography Awards; Common Tern and dog on leash, A. Pachomski (2). Printed with support from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Long Island Sound Futures Fund.