



The Land Rover Owners Club

of Southern Africa

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AS A LAND ROVER OWNERS CLUB MEMBER, YOU (AND YOUR FAMILY AND INVITED GUESTS) ARE EXPECTED TO ABIDE BY THE LROC'S CONSERVATION CODE AT ALL TIMES.

CONSERVATION CODE

1. No man has the right to enjoy and use what nature has to offer unless he is prepared to take up the responsibility of protecting and conserving his natural heritage.
2. Choose your route, your equipment and your destination with the welfare of the wilderness in mind .
3. Travel and camp by the rules of "Tread Lightly", the wrong way is any other way.
4. Take only photographs and leave only footprints; is the philosophy to follow.
5. Leave items of interest, e.g. plants, animals and mineral specimens, where you find them so that others too may enjoy them. Cutting or printing messages or names on tree trunks and rocks is not leaving things in their natural state.
6. Removing anything is removing a link in the ecological web. Removing enough will cause the web to collapse.
7. Disturb animals and birds as little as possible, particularly those with young or in nests.
8. Leave any seemingly lost young animal well alone. Their parents have probably hidden them on purpose in order to return and fetch them later
9. In addition to contravening the nature conservation ordinance, feeding wild animals can be dangerous to you and the animal.
10. Noise pollution not only scares wild animals, but is objectionable to others seeking solitude.
11. When going off road avoid driving, or for that matter even walking, along ecotones (an ecotone is the transition zone between communities, e.g. the forest edge). These areas usually have the most fragile vegetation and can take up to 25 years to recover even after human trampling.
12. Take a refuse bag with you -and use it! Carry out all rubbish -leave nothing behind. Food scraps such as egg and peanut shells and orange peels take a long time to decompose and are an eyesore to others.
13. If you smoke, take care -when finished crush out your smoke as a veld fire is a devastating force, so don't give one a chance to start. Place the dead butt in your refuse bag. This is especially important if you smoke filter tipped cigarettes. Most filters are made of synthetic material and do not decompose
14. When visiting areas which are extensively used, campsites have been developed to reduce impact on the environment. Use them and their facilities. There is usually a set place to make a fire. A toilet is usually provided. If not, use the "cat method" for disposing of human waste. Select a screened spot at least 50 metres from the camp or from water. Dig a hole no deeper than 15 to 20 centimetres, (to keep within the biological disposal layer). After use, fill the hole with loose soil, replace the sod and tramp firmly, nature will do the rest in a few days.
15. Do not break off branches from trees, shrubs or bushes. An area with discoloured and broken stubs and "pruned" trees loses its natural appeal and appearance.
16. At developed campsites, use only the wood provided for your fire and use it sparingly. There are often limits to the amount that can be brought in and it should not be wasted on large bonfires.
17. Before you leave camp, make sure your fire is dead, take all your litter with you and leave the campsite clean, so that others may enjoy using it after you.
18. If the water supply is a stream, do not use soaps and detergents in it, not even if they are biodegradable. Someone may possibly be using the water soon after you have left and the chances are that soap may not have broken down yet. Use a biodegradable soap and wash in a bowl at least 20 metres away from the water and afterwards pour the soapy water on the ground. This will allow the soil to filter out the soap.
19. Consider others that may be camping near you, they may be camping to get away from the noise of people, Allow them to hear the sound of the bush at night.
20. When setting up camp in areas where there are no developed campsites, select a site at least 60 metres from any water or beauty spot. Make sure your campsite is level -not only for your comfort but for ecological reasons as well. Do as little camp "improvement" as possible. If you pitch a tent dig drainage channels only if really necessary,
21. If you have to do any cleaning at your campsite scatter the cleared stones and branches back over the area when you leave. Try to leave no trace of your having occupied the area.