



Birder Friendly Project Friends of Anahuac Refuge (FOAR)

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As you know, the Upper Texas Coast provides rich habitat for thousands of birds that live here as well as migrate through our area each year. The month of April draws thousands of Birders having a dynamic effect on the local economy. Each year, approximately 179,000 visitors come to Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). A major number of our visitors are here for birding, especially during bird migration in the month of April, and many are from out of town. We are interested in gathering data specifically about how our economy benefits from birder visitors and will also help all of us better market our area as a "Birder Friendly" tourist destination.

Join our effort by helping as explained below:

1—Visitors will be given several business cards as they stop by to visit locations such as ANWR Visitor Center and ANWR Visitor Information Station on the refuge. Audubon at High Island, Chambers Wild, Winnie Ducks Unlimited, and others have also committed to participation in the *Birder Friendly Project*.

2—As a business in Chambers County your help is needed:

A--collect the cards from visiting birders who spend money or visit your business during the month of April 2016. The birders will either drop the cards in the box or leave them on the table for you or your staff to deposit in the collection box

B--a container box for ease in collecting the business cards will be provided to participating businesses by the end of March.

C—the boxes will be collected the first week of May by one of our volunteers.

3—FOAR will count the number of business cards by location and compile the economic impact information to share with all participants. There will be a prize for the business that collects the most cards within each of the 3 areas. The areas are mid Chambers County, east Chambers County, High Island/Bolivar Peninsula.

Call Linda Ann Jackson at 409-267-7880 if you have questions.