

Paddlers Code of Ethics

1. Respect all of Florida's waterways and their unique characteristics. This includes still, flat water, to Gulf/Ocean currents.
2. Learn and follow all State of Florida Boating Regulations, navigation rules, and vessel safety equipment requirements. Federal regulations may also apply to your paddling venue.
3. Practice with, and learn to use all of your safety equipment. Once capsized, is not the time to learn of your own, or your equipment's capabilities. Carry and use all required safety gear.
4. Paddle only at your experience level. Take lessons from a qualified instructor.
5. Respect all wildlife, and critical distances to minimize/reduce negative impacts. Practice passive, hands off observation.
6. Become educated to, and protect critical habitats, and environments. Practice the Leave No Trace principles.
7. Respect private property, do not alter existing paddle trails, and plan your outing accordingly.
8. Understand that the public will judge our paddle sport community by the actions of the individual, whether on the water or not. Advocate responsibly.

Note: Many thanks to Brack Barker of the Florida Paddling Trails Association and Wild Florida Adventures for putting this code together.