

Tips for Being an Effective Hike Leader for the Conservancy

- *Be open with your body language*
- *Meet people where they are at (both physically and mentally)*
 - You do not have to convince anyone of anything, just be open and listen. 99.9% of hike attendees resonate with our mission.
 - Read the crowd to see when you need to stop or slow down to allow people to catch up with the group
- *Take pictures!*
 - Can take a group photo to help you remember your attendees
 - Pictures of people in nature are great for land Conservancy staff to use for promotion
 - You can also ask attendees to send you pictures they may have taken if you were unable to capture your own
- *Land acknowledgment*
 - You may choose to do a land acknowledgement before beginning your hike if you understand the relationship between the tribe and their land
- *It's okay to say you don't know!*
 - If someone asks you a question you don't know the answer to, that's okay!
 - You can note down their question and get back to them after you talk to INLC staff, or you can give them INLC's contact information
 - You will learn more about the land with each hike you lead
- *Bring who you are to this volunteer position*
 - If you are knowledgeable or passionate about a certain topic, whether that be spotting animal tracks, birding, plant ID or wildlife photography feel free to integrate that into your hikes
 - Talk about the relationship you have with INLC
- *Stay up to date on INLC news!*
 - As an INLC ambassador you should know what's going on in the organization
 - Gillian will send updates periodically via email, so you have current talking points
 - Feel free to browse our website, newsletters, blog posts and social media!