What to Do with your Libby Birds

You may already have places you'd like to leave your Libby Birds. But just in case, here's a list of both outdoor and indoor with a few tips. These are just suggestions. I can't promise that leaving a Libby Bird will be allowed at all of these locations. Do you have any suggestions? Text or call me as I'd love to add yours to this list!

General Notes:

- When in doubt, research your spot for any rules first, use good judgement, or quietly ask permission.
- National Parks don't allow anything to be left behind but you might be able to hand Libby Birds out.
- Homeland Security does not allow anything to be left at Airports.
- Don't leave on private property without permission.
- Think about high traffic areas where lots of people are likely to see your Libby Birds. But don't forget those out of the way places where smaller groups of people visit.
- People don't often look up when they walk so place them in an area that can't be missed!
- Make them brightly colored so they stand out. Or add a brightly colored note so they catch someone's eye.
- If you've added a cord or twine hanger, Libby Birds can be hung from lots of places.
- Or glue a clothes pin to the bottom of your Libby Bird and clip them to all kinds of things.
- It's best to place Libby Birds in Ziploc Baggies to prevent them from getting damaged.
- Bring twine or tape with you just in case you need something to hold them in place.

Outdoors Overview:

Children's playgrounds, town squares, gathering areas downtown, outdoor shopping centers, beaches, public pools, rest stops, parking lots, local parks, state parks (check 1st), walking trails, trailheads, hiking trails, bike trails, nature trails, picnic tables, trees, bushes, planters and more.

- Will they get wet? Place Bird and Notes in a Ziploc Baggie to keep from getting damaged by rain, dirt, etc.
- Will they blow away? When sewing your birds, add a hanger to hang from branches or tree limbs but be sure that it will stay in place and not get exposed to the elements.
- If in a baggie, use twine or cording to tie to a sign, pole or a branch or something so they don't blow away.
- You can also glue a clothes pin to your bird and use it to attach to places where rain or water isn't not an issue.

Outside Areas:

- Tie to stop signs, bus stop signs, lighting, signage.
- Look for benches, public seating areas, even public rocking chairs.
- Tie on branches, bushes or trees.
- Hang from fences along busy sidewalks.
- Place in flower pots and groomed areas near entrances to malls, stores, any buildings frequented often.
- Attach to lighting, signage, etc.
- Kids love finding these so don't forget places where they gather like children's playgrounds.
- At the beach or public pool, tie to umbrellas and lounge chairs.
- Look around your local parks, state parks (check 1st), walking trails, trailheads hiking trails, bike trails, nature trails, etc. Whether on picnic tables, tied to in trees, branches, bushes, left in flower pots and planters, you should be able to find lots of good places to stash Libby Birds!

- Take daily walks? Keep several with you to tie to signs, trees bushes, etc. or hand them out to others you see.
- Do you go camping? Take some with you to leave around the campgrounds or to give to your new friends.
- Leave outside of places where people might be experiencing a tough time - hospital, clinic, health facility, health department, nursing home, funeral home - any place where someone might need a little boost.
- Leave in parking lots outside where people gather -food pantry, community centers, churches, restaurants, gas stations, along sidewalks, etc.
- If your favorite restaurant always has a long line outside, look for places to hide Libby Birds.
- Find a sanitary place near where you pump gas.
- Tie onto a grocery cart outside your favorite store.
- If in a Cemetery, be respectful of others. Don't encroach on personal plots and headstones. If there are walking paths, place on lighting or stones where they'll be seen. Hang in trees and bushes but not those planted by family members.
- If going on a vacation or taking a long drive, take some to leave along the way at gas stations, rest stops and when going through drive-thru's. Don't forget hotel staff, fast food workers, transport and bus drivers.
- If going on a cruise, take bunches as you'll find lots of places to leave them.

Buildings

Local malls, foyers of public places, community bulletin boards, kiosks, tourist attractions, public library, local gym, dance class, local coffee shop or family restaurant, doctor or dentist office, hospital, food pantry, public transportation, bus stations, laundromats, your church, where you live and where you work.

- Again, when in doubt, check to see what is allowed.
- Avoid stores or places where someone would feel uncomfortable or it might seem someone is stealing or where they might be accused of stealing.
- Avoid places that might not be sanitary. Placing your Libby Bird in a baggie is helpful.

Buildings:

- On the shelves of your Public Library in between your favorite books.
- Kiosks for flyers, pamphlets, brochures.
- Think of all of the places where people gather before and after church service. Leave in pews, in the library, in all of the gathering places. Be cautious around food and coffee. Don't' forget those who are involved in the service.
- Find safe places in the waiting rooms of your doctor, dentist, hospital, clinic, health facility, health department, nursing home, funeral home.
- Many businesses and buildings still have Community Bulletin Boards or Directories. Bulletin Boards might even have thumb tacks!
- If placing in a bathroom of your favorite restaurant, book store, mall, etc., be sure your bird is in a baggie. Hang from available hooks and on the hooks inside individual stalls, if you feel it's clean.
- Wherever there's a line (restaurant, driver's license, etc.) find a spot and hide one when no one is looking.
- Visiting someone in a nursing home or assisted living? Hide them in public gathering areas or hand them out. Or take a bunch and give them to the person you're visiting. Let them hide them or hand them out.
- Don't forget the staff as they need a 'hug', too. They can also give them out as prizes when playing games or getting others to participate.
- Check to see if you're allowed to hide them in a school building. Both teachers and students need love!
- At your workplace, think of places where others gather like the break room or copy machine.
- If you belong to any clubs or groups, get there early to hide some. Or make enough for everyone and place in a bowl or bag and let them pick.
- If you live in an apartment, think of all of the places where people come and go – the front desk, the elevators, the laundry room, the mail room, the foyer. Or decide if you want to make one for all of your neighbors.

- If you have frequent visitors to your home, stitch up a bunch and leave in a bowl near the door and have everyone take one before they leave.
- If you have house guests, tuck one under each pillow or leave inside their bath towels.

If handing them out:

- If giving to a stranger, decide if you'll just 'give and dash' or if you'll say something to them.
- You can give a compliment or just say, 'Have a blessed day' or tell them a little about the Libby Bird Project.

If mailing them to others:

- You can simply mail just the Libby Bird with the 2 Notes.
- Or, you can include one with a letter or a birthday card or greeting card.
- Depending on the receiver, you could send a bunch stitched up with notes in baggies and ask them to hide them in their town or to share them with others.
- If they're crafty or creative, call me and ask me to send them a Libby Bird Starter Kit!
- Or tell them about this project and encourage them to contact me to get their own kit.

Fabric Postcards:

- If you've never made Fabric Postcards, they are lots of fun and can be addictive!
- Fabric Postcards can be sent through the mail just like any other postcard but there are some general rules to follow to make sure they'll make it to their destination.
- Written directions, examples and mailing guidelines will be coming but for now you can find lots online by searching 'Fabric Postcards'.
- Typically, you decorate the front side and sew it to the back which is printed on cardstock. The back is just like other postcards where you add the mailing address and a note.
- The Starter Kit contains a few Postcard Backs printed on cardstock to get you started. If you want to print more, go to Download Section on the Libby Bird Page of my Winner Designs website.
- There are lots of ways you can use the Libby Bird Template as a guide for the front side. But you can also use fabrics with birds or even embroidery designs. If you're a quilter, grab those leftover quilt blocks to use as a base for your postcards.
- Instead of fabric, you can cut up magazine pages, wrapping paper, books and more. You can even raid your arts and crafts supplies including crayons and magic markers to draw or paint your own postcard. If you go wild with the embellishments, you'll need to place your postcard in an envelope to mail.
- Don't forget to include little ones when making postcards. With some guidance, this can be such a fun experience for the giver and receiver!

Do you belong to a group that's creative or looking to do something nice for others?
Call me and let me know and I'll send you several Libby Birds in different sizes and materials to get you going!

Do what makes your heart sing!

Linda Winner 850-449-0259
https://winnerdesigns.com/libby-bird.htm