



萬佛聖城保護野生動物標誌

Wildlife Protection Signs at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas

胡昇 文/譯

Written and Translated by Hu Sheng

萬佛聖城裡有很多野生動物，包括孔雀、野火雞、鹿、松鼠、地鼠、浣熊、乃至冬季從北方飛來的野雁，以及許多鳥類。因為聖城住眾都不殺生，因此這些野生動物在萬佛聖城過得逍遙自在，除非遇上牠們的天敵或者意外事故。

數月前，萬佛聖城的訪客不小心撞死一頭鹿，因此有位居士發心，製作近十個「保護野生動物」標誌，豎立在野生動物常出沒的地點。標誌上的圖案是三頭鹿正穿越馬路，文字說明則是：「請您與野生動物保持一定距離，幫助我們保護牠們免受干擾或傷害；安全距離至少300英尺。如果動物對您的存在有所反應，則說明您離得太近了。」

萬佛聖城所在的瑜伽山谷，於2023年2月23日凌晨起飄雪。當天清晨只見大地銀妝素裹，十分美麗。雪花片片飄下，令聖城住眾，以及大中小學師生，都非常開心。最妙的是，雪花只留在草地上，人行道和馬路沒有任何積雪，免去掃雪或剷雪的麻煩。這次的飄雪從2月23日至25日，每天持續一小時至數小時不等。27日晨間再度飄雪，至此告一段落；大家都期盼「瑞雪兆豐年」。而「保護野生動物」的標誌在雪花的襯托下更加醒目，提醒大家要多注意野生動物的安全。❀

There are many wild animals in the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB), including peacocks, wild turkeys, deer, squirrels, gophers, raccoons, and even wild geese flying from the north in winter, as well as many birds. Because the residents of the Holy City do not kill animals, these wild animals live freely in CTTB, unless they encounter their natural enemies or accidents.

A few months ago, a visitor to CTTB accidentally killed a deer, so a layperson took the initiative to make nearly ten “Wild Animals Protection” signs and erect them in places where wild animals often appear. On the sign are three deer crossing the road, and the sign reads: “Help us protect wildlife from injury or harm by keeping a long distance from them (min 300 ft). If an animal reacts to your presence, you are too close!”

It began to snow in the Ukiah Valley where CTTB is located on the evening of February 22, 2023. In the early morning of the 23rd, the earth was covered as though with silver makeup, which was very beautiful. The falling snowflakes made the residents of CTTB, as well as the teachers and students of Dharma Realm Buddhist University, Developing Virtue Secondary School and Instilling Goodness Elementary School all very happy. The best part was that the snowflakes stayed only on the grass. There was no snow on the sidewalks and roads, eliminating the trouble of sweeping or shoveling snow. The snow lasted from one hour to several hours every day from February 23 to 25. On the morning of the 27th, it snowed again, and then it came to an end; everyone looked forward to “auspicious snow heralds a good year.” The “Wildlife Protection” signs stand out against the background of snowflakes, reminding everyone to pay more attention to the safety of wild animals. ❀