

# Pretty as a Picture

*DEEP Kellogg Environmental Center, Photography Workshop, August 19, 2017*

## 1. Keeping the camera steady

### Hands

- Rest the lens in your left hand
- Grip the body with your right hand
- Right index finger over the shutter

### Elbows

- Elbows tucked into your body
- Or, rest elbows on a surface
- Light breaths

### Legs

- A little apart so you're balanced
- Take a knee, bringing one leg up
- Lean against a wall or tree

## 2. Perspective

Get down low, when the flower is down low, or maybe look up

Take the high road, look down

Look behind you

## 3. Composition

**Rule of Thirds** - Place the most interesting item on the tic-tac-toe lines or intersections

**Leading Lines** - Use a line to lead the viewer to the most interesting item

**Rule of Odds** - For visual balance and harmony use 1, 3 or 5 items

**Leaving Space** - Breathing room and implied motion

**Depth** - Adding 3D by having items in foreground and background

**Orientation** - When the scene has many vertical lines rotate your camera

**Fill the Frame** - Break the "Leave Space" rule to increase drama

**Simplification** - Eliminate distracting elements to clarify your main element

## 4. Camera Motion

### Camera motion

Slow down, stabilize the camera, gently squeeze the shutter button, or use a tripod or nature's tripod

### Not actually focusing on subject

Often the background between 2 people becomes the focus point, not the people

Learn to "see" what your camera is focusing on

Learn to press the button halfway to lock the focus

### Shutter speed is too slow to freeze motion

Rule of thumb - Sports mode as the fox is crossing in front of you

### Not all of the important items are in focus

Rule of thumb - Landscape mode if there are more than 5 things to focus on, for example, a herd of deer

Chane Cullens  
CCullens.com  
Chane@CCullens.com

Flagpole Photographers Camera Club  
FlagpolePhotographers.com  
Info@FlagpolePhotographers.com