

◆ Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
- Visit in small groups. Split larger parties into groups of 4-6.
- Repackage food to minimize waste.
- Use a map and compass to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.



Plan Ahead

Watch for hazards and follow all the rules of the park or outdoor facility. Remember proper clothing, sunscreen, hats, first aid kits, and plenty of drinking water. Use the buddy system. Make sure you carry your families name, phone number, and address.



◆ Minimize Campfire Impact

- Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a candle lantern for light.
- Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires.
- Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.

◆ Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow.
- Protect riparian areas by camping at least 200 feet from lakes and streams.
- Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.

In popular areas:

- Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites.
- Walk single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy.
- Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.

In pristine areas:

- Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails.
- Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.



Stick to Trails

Stay on Marked trails whenever possible. Short-cutting trails causes the soil to wear away or to be packed, which eventually kills trees and other vegetation. Trampled wildflowers and vegetation take years to recover. Stick to trails.

◆ Leave What You Find

- Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.



Leave What You Find

When visiting any outdoor area, try to leave it the same as you find it. The less impact we each make, the longer we will enjoy what we have. Even picking flowers denies others the opportunity to see them and reduces seeds, which means fewer plants next year.

Use established restrooms. Graffiti and vandalism have no place anywhere, and they spoil the experience for others. Leave your mark by doing an approved conservation project.

◆ Dispose of Waste Properly

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.
- To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 200 feet away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.



Trash Your Trash

Make sure all trash is put in a bag or trash receptacle. Trash is unsightly and ruins everyone's outdoor experience. Your trash can kill wildlife. Even materials such as orange peels, apple cores, and food scraps take years to break down and may attract unwanted pests that could become a problem.

◆ Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
- Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering pack stock.
- Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises
- Keep campsites small. Focus activity to areas where vegetation is absent
- Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails in pristine areas
- Avoid places where impacts are just beginning



Respect Other Visitors

Expect to meet other visitors. Be courteous and make room for others. Control your speed when biking or running. Pass with care and let others know before you pass. Avoid disturbing others by making noise or playing loud music.

Respect "No Trespassing" signs. If property boundaries are unclear, do not enter the area.

◆ Respect Wildlife

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.
- Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.
- Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.



Manage Your Pet

Managing your pet will keep people, dogs, livestock, and wildlife from feeling threatened. Make sure your pet is on a leash or controlled at all times. Do not let your pet approach or chase wildlife. When animals are chased or disturbed, they change eating patterns and use energy that may result in poor health or death.

Take care of your pet's waste. Take a small shovel or scoop and a pick-up bag to pick up your pet's waste—wherever it is left. Place the waste bags in a trash can for disposal.





Cub Scout Requirements

•Discuss with your leader or parent/guardian the importance of the Leave No Trace front country guidelines.

•On three separate outings, practice the front country guidelines of Leave No Trace.

•Boys in a Tiger Cub den complete the activities for Achievement 5, Let's Go Outdoors; boys in a Wolf den complete Requirement 7, Your Living World; boys in a Bear den complete Requirement 12, Family Outdoor Adventures; boys in a Webelos den earn the Outdoorsman activity badge.

•Participate in a Leave No Trace-related service project.

•Promise to practice the Leave No Trace front country guidelines by signing the Cub Scout Leave No Trace Pledge.

•Draw a poster to illustrate the Leave No Trace frontcountry guidelines and display it at a pack meeting.

Cub Scout Leader Requirements

•Discuss with your den's Cub Scouts or your pack's leaders the importance of the Leave No Trace front country guidelines.

•On three separate outings demonstrate and practice the front country guidelines of Leave No Trace.

•Participate in presenting a den, pack, district, or council awareness session on Leave No Trace front country guidelines.

•Participate in a Leave No Trace-related service project.

•Commit yourself to the Leave No Trace front country guidelines by signing the Cub Scout Leave No Trace Pledge.

•Assist at least three boys in earning Cub Scouting's Leave No Trace Awareness Award.



Scout and Venturer Requirements

•Recite and explain in your own words the principles of Leave No Trace, and discuss how an ethical guideline differs from a rule.

•On three separate camping trips with your troop or team, demonstrate and practice the Leave No Trace skills appropriate to the trip.

•Earn the Camping and Environmental Science merit badges.

•Participate in a Leave No Trace related service project that reduces or rehabilitates impacts. Discuss with your troop or team which recreational impacts were involved with the project.

•Give a 10-minute presentation on a Leave No Trace topic approved by your unit leader to a Scouting unit or other interested group.

•Teach a Leave No Trace related skill to a Scouting unit or other interested group.

Scouter and Venturing Leader Requirements

•Recite and explain in your own words the principles of Leave No Trace, and discuss how an ethical guideline differs from a rule.

•On each of the three camping trips in Scout requirement 2, discuss with your troop or team the impact problems encountered and the methods the unit used to eliminate or at least minimize those impacts.

•Read chapters 7 through 10 (Leaving No Trace), chapter 27 (Understanding Nature), and chapter 34 (Being Good Stewards of Our Resources) in the BSA Fieldbook. Share with another adult leader what you learned.

•Actively assist (train, advise, and supervise) a Scout in planning, organizing, and leading a Leave No Trace service project that reduces or rehabilitates recreational impacts.

•Assist at least three Scouts in earning the Leave No Trace Achievement Award.

To qualify for the above awards, complete the requirements and submit an application signed by a unit leader to the Council Service Center.

Outdoor Code

As an American. I will do my best to -

- Be clean in my outdoor manners
 - Be careful with fire
- Be considerate in the outdoors
 - Be conservation minded

For Leave No Trace Trainer Courses go to <http://www.glcscouting.org/training/tngCal.html>
Or please contact a course director at:

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LEAVE NO TRACE

PRINCIPLES of OUTDOOR ETHICS



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