

The Leave No Trace Seven Principles

1. Know Before You Go

Proper planning ensures

- Make sure you know what the weather will be and pack accordingly.
- Plan for the proper size campsite.
- Make sure you bring enough food/water for the trip.
- Plan things for every persons skill level.

2. Choose the Right Path

- Stay on the trail.
- Use existing trails and designated or existing campsites.

3. Trash Your Trash

Take your trash home with you.

- Inspect your campsite for trash or spilled foods.
- Always dispose of waste in the proper manner. If no trash cans are available, take your trash with you.

4. Leave What You Find

Leave rocks, plants, animals, archaeological artifacts, and other objects as you find them.

- You can look but do not touch.
- Never take things out of nature.

5. Be Careful with Fire

- If possible, use an existing campfire ring in a well-placed campsite.
- True Leave No Trace fires are small. Use dead and downed wood that can be broken easily by hand.
- Always have a way to put out your fire handy (water, sand, etc), just in case.
- Make sure the fire is completely out and the ashes are cold to the touch.

6. Respect Wildlife

Quick movements and loud noises are stressful to animals. You are too close if an animal alters its normal activities. Considerate campers:

- Observe wildlife from afar to avoid disturbing them.
- Store food securely and keep garbage and food scraps away from animals so they will not acquire bad habits. Never feed wildlife. Help keep wildlife wild.

7. Be Kind to Other Visitors

Be considerate of other campers and respect their privacy. Thoughtful campers respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.

- Travel and camp in small groups
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Keep the noise down and leave radios, tape players, and pets at home.
- Select campsites away from other groups to help preserve their solitude.
- Always travel and camp quietly to avoid disturbing other visitors.