



Leave No Trace Principles

Leave No Trace principles were developed in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

1.

Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Know the regulations and special considerations for the area you'll be visiting.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Always leave your itinerary with someone at home.
- Travel in small groups to minimize impacts.



2.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- Hike in the middle of the trail; walk through (not around) puddles/mud.
- Stay off of vegetation; walk on rocks where possible.
- Camp in designated sites where possible.
- In other areas, don't camp within 150 feet of water, trail, or a road.

3.

Dispose of Waste Properly

- Pack out all trash (including toilet paper), leftover food, and litter.
- Use existing privies, or dig a 6-8 inch deep cathole at least 150 feet from water.
- Wash yourself and dishes at least 150 feet from water.
- If needed, use only small amounts of biodegradable soap.



4.

Leave What You Find

- Leave rocks, plants, and other natural objects as you find them.
- Let photos, drawings, or journals help capture your memories.
- Do not build structures or furniture or dig trenches.

5.

Minimize Campfire Impacts

- Use a portable stove to avoid the lasting impact of a fire.
- Where fires are permitted, use existing fire rings and collect only downed wood.
- Burn all fires to ash, put out campfires completely, and hide traces of fire.



6.

Respect Wildlife

- Observe wildlife from a distance.
- Avoid wildlife during mating, nesting, and other sensitive times.
- Control pets at all times, and clean up after them.

7.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Let natural sounds prevail; avoid loud sounds and voices.
- Be courteous and yield to other users; take breaks to one side of the trail.



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