



# Tracker

Winter 2002-03

## NEWSLETTER

a publication of Leave No Trace, Inc.

National Public Lands Day is an annual event that brings volunteers together to improve our country's largest natural resource—our public lands. This year, projects were held in 50 states on September 28 making it the largest hands-on volunteer effort of its kind in the country.

National Public Lands Day is a unique public and private partnership involving many federal, state and local

the projects completed by volunteers will help protect and preserve public lands in the years to come.

The National Environmental Education and Training Foundation manages, coordinates and generates support for the National Public Lands Day program. National Public Lands Day has grown tremendously over the past few years. Since 1994, National Public Lands Day has dramatically

munity contributions of food, tools and equipment have resulted in over \$8,000,000 of improvements to public lands this year alone.

Although volunteers come from diverse backgrounds, they all share a love of the outdoors. These are the lands and facilities Americans use for recreation, education, and just plain enjoyment. They encompass national parks, monuments, wildlife refuges, forests, grasslands, marine sanctuaries, lakes and reservoirs managed by government agencies but belonging to and enjoyed by everyone. This year's theme was "Explore America's Backyard."

Leave No Trace focused its efforts on approximately 60 sites that were interested in complementing their restoration projects with education. Leave No Trace reference tags and outdoor posters were distributed to volunteers as a take-home reference. Leave No Trace provided a number of National Public Lands Day site coordinators with the Leave No Trace Training Cookbook so that the coordinators could provide appropriate training and activities for their volunteers. In addition, Clif Bar supported the Leave No Trace efforts by kicking in energy bars for the hard-working site coordinators and volunteers. Thanks to all who participated!

### 2002 NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY BIGGEST AND MOST SUCCESSFUL YET



By Clayton Freeman

National Public Lands Day participants take a photo break in Anacostia Park in Washington, D.C.

Photo: Robb Hampton

land agencies, and Leave No Trace is a natural for the event. Through participation at various National Public Lands Day sites each year, Leave No Trace seeks to educate volunteers about responsible use of the public lands the volunteers are restoring and improving. It is Leave No Trace's hope that the education we provide along with

demonstrated Americans concern for their public lands. The first event was sponsored by federal agencies and attracted 700 volunteers to 3 sites. Last year, 9 federal agencies and 85 state and local partners supported the efforts of 65,000 volunteers at 375 sites. It is estimated that hard-working efforts combined with com-

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# THE Leave No Trace INDEX

Percent of parents that believe participation in outdoor activities strengthens family relationships: 88%

Percent of parents that rank camping as the greatest outdoor family experience: 33%

Number of people who attempted to climb Washington's Mount Rainier in 1999: 10,919

Number of people who summited Mount Rainer in 1999: 5,255

Number of wildfires in the United States from January through September of 2001: 59,798

Number of wildfires in the United States from January through September of 2002: 64,856

Number of acres burned by wildfires in the United States from January through September of 2002: 6,500,000.

Number of acres of public land the Bureau of Land Management administers: 262,000,000

Percent of Utah managed for public use by federal and state agencies: 79%

Date of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System: March 14, 2003

Potential height in feet of the giant Sequoia, the world's largest tree species: 270

Potential life span in years of the giant Sequoia: 3200

Only area left in the world where giant Sequoia trees grow naturally: California's Sierra Nevada Mountain Range

Number of record size species of trees found in Olympic National Park, Washington: 7

Minimum number of deer killed in Shenandoah National Park each year by automobiles and trucks: 500

Age range that the Desert Tortoise reaches adulthood: 14-20 years

Number of months a Desert Tortoise can store water as a reserve without drinking: 12

Percent of Desert Tortoises that die before reaching adulthood: 98

Percent increase of winter backcountry use in national parks in the last ten years: 27%

Percent increase of summer backcountry use in national parks in the last ten years: 7%

Number of years it takes a plastic six-pac holder to biodegrade: 100

Number of years it takes an aluminum can to biodegrade: 80-100

Number of years it takes a glass bottle to biodegrade: 1,000,000

Number of Boy Scouts of America Awareness Awards given since 1998: 20,000+

Number of river cleanups conducted in the United States in 2002: 350



## 2002 Board of Directors

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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: LEAVE NO TRACE MASTER'S COURSE PROVIDER

Leave No Trace, Inc. will soon be requesting proposals from organizations interested in becoming official providers of the Leave No Trace Master's Course, as described in the Request for Proposal (RFP) which will be available in mid-December 2002. Pursuant to the Leave No Trace National Training Guidelines, Leave No Trace, Inc. will begin accepting letters of intent in February 2003.

Interested parties should submit a letter of intent to: Dana Watts, Executive Director, Leave No Trace, Inc., P.O. Box 997, Boulder, CO 80306, by February 28, 2003, with full proposals due by March 31, 2003.

The Leave No Trace Educational Review Committee (ERC), a standing committee of the Leave No Trace Board of Directors, will conduct proposal reviews. The ERC serves as the institution that recommends organizations interested in conducting Leave No Trace Master courses. The ERC will review and select interested organizations by majority vote, pursuant to the selection guidelines, which will then forward its recommendations to the Executive Director and the Board of Directors of Leave No Trace, Inc. Recommendations and decisions will be based on the degree to which interested organizations meet or exceed the core requirements and the expected need for additional Leave No Trace training institutions. Leave No Trace, Inc.'s goal is to authorize the smallest number of highly qualified training institutions necessary to meet expected demand.

Information regarding the official Request for Proposal will be available in mid-December 2002 on the Leave No Trace website: [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org) or by calling 303.442.8222

## JOHN GITCHELL ANSWERS: WHY WE PARTNER WITH LEAVE NO TRACE



This year, the Grand Teton Lodge Company formed a partnership with Leave No Trace because we believe that effective education is the best way to protect the environment.

We all travel to national parks to enjoy pristine and beautiful places, but we do not always understand our role in protecting them. Leave No Trace spells out what we need to do as

individuals to make smart choices when we are outside.

Over 175,000 people stay with us annually at the Grand Teton Lodge Company while traveling through Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. Working with Leave No Trace, we are positively influencing employees and visitors, and sending our guests off better informed and with a stronger environmental ethic than when they arrived.

This year we trained 50 trip leaders (rafting, horse rides, marinas) on the principles of Leave No Trace and methods to encourage park visitors to follow these principles. We had a fantastic visit from Shane and Lindsay Riffle, one of the Leave No Trace Traveling Trainer teams. Our next step is to get the information in front of our lodging guests. We have developed a daily newsletter with Leave No Trace specific messages for our visitors and ecosystem as well as special activities for kids. We hope you'll visit us ([www.gtlc.com](http://www.gtlc.com)) to learn more about the Grand Tetons and Leave No Trace!

## NEW FRONTCOUNTRY PROGRAM THRIVES

The Leave No Trace Frontcountry program continues to grow. Four new Frontcountry sites have been added this year including: The Snyderville Basin Special Recreation Area near Park City, Utah; the Douglas County Division of Parks and Trails in Castle Rock, Colorado; Purts Creek State Park in Eustace, Texas; and the City of Boise, Idaho, which will focus on public lands in the Boise Foothills. Here are some of the vital statistics on the new sites:

**Snyderville Basin Special Recreation District:** Work on Snyderville Basin's Frontcountry program started in April and is nearly completed. This proactive program focuses on Snyderville Basin's most pressing resource management and recreation impact issues such as user conflict, dog management and waste issues, litter, and protection of their unique riparian areas. Snyderville Basin hosts hiking, biking, cross country skiing, running, snowshoeing, and equestrian use.

**Boise Foothills:** Work on the Boise Frontcountry program begins soon with a site visit for a firsthand look at the resource and recreational impacts that they are experiencing. Leave No Trace will be working closely with the non-profit organization, the Ridge To Rivers

ABOVE: JOHN GITCHELL IS THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER FOR VAIL RESORTS.

Partnership, that helps administer these lands near the city of Boise. Many recreational opportunities are available in the Boise Foothills, and the Ridge To Rivers Partnership hopes to educate users to protect the land's integrity.

**Purtis Creek State Park:** This state park offers a great deal of recreation opportunity though the park also suffers from a number of user impacts. Park managers are interested in developing a site-specific educational program to educate park visitors in Leave No Trace. Work in Purtis Creek State Park will begin late this year.

**Douglas County Division of Parks and Trails:** Douglas County, just south of Denver, Colorado, is rich in recreational resources including thousands of acres of publicly owned open space, miles of multi-use trails, and a wealth of diverse plant and animal life. Land managers from the Division of Parks and Trails seek to preserve and protect these lands while providing excellent recreational opportunities. As a part of their plan, they will implement a tailored Leave No Trace educational program to teach outdoor enthusiasts to be good land stewards.

For more information on the Leave No Trace Frontcountry program please visit [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org), or contact Ben Lawhon at either [ben@lnt.org](mailto:ben@lnt.org) or 303.442.8222 x104.

## VIRGINIA COUPLE COMMITS

To celebrate their November marriage, Virginia pair, Gerald Babao, from the American Canoe Association, and his bride Christine McSorley decided to incorporate Leave No Trace in their nuptial bliss. They not only passed out Seven Principles reference tags at their wedding, they also designed Leave No Trace information pieces for each table and made a contribution to the organization on behalf of every guest. Great thanks and best wishes to Gerald and Christine for their incredible commitment to Leave No Trace!

## NEW ROUTES FOR TRAVELING TRAINERS IN 2003

The 2003 Traveling Trainer teams will be on the road soon. If you are interested in having them roll through your town let us know. The best way to submit requests is to log onto [www.travelingtrainers.org](http://www.travelingtrainers.org) and select the "Request a Visit" option from the menu. The website should answer most of your questions though you can also

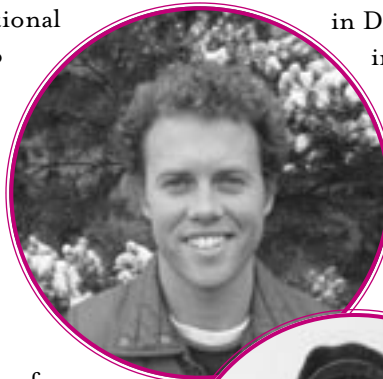
contact David Braun directly at either [david@lnt.org](mailto:david@lnt.org) or 303.442.8222 x106.

## HELLO AND GOODBYE

**Gavin McMillan** joined the staff as the Membership and Information Coordinator in May. He graduated from the University of Colorado with a BS in Marketing in December of 2001, and spent some time in Telluride Colorado working for the ski mountain before joining up with Leave No Trace. Gavin is an avid outdoor enthusiast who enjoys mountain biking, rock climbing, and mountain sports of all types. After an internship with Leave No Trace in the fall of 2001 in which he developed a prototype media guide for the organization, Gavin kept in close contact and was thrilled to be offered a full time position as the Membership and Information Coordinator. Feel free to contact him at 303.442.8222 x105, or send him an email at [gavin@lnt.org](mailto:gavin@lnt.org) if you have any questions or comments.

**David Braun**, the new Traveling Trainer/Educational Programs Coordinator, brings a solid outdoor and experiential education background to his new role as the Traveling Trainer Coordinator. For the past seven years he has worked as a field instructor for several organizations including YMCA Camp Minikani in Wisconsin, the National Outdoor Leadership School, and Prescott College in Arizona, an institution from which he recently graduated. He has taught Leave No Trace techniques and ethics to hundreds of outdoor participants and educators in locations as diverse as the volcanoes of the North Cascade Mountains and the canyons of the Southwest desert. During David's 2001 internship at Leave No Trace, he played a key role in developing the PEAK Program, the organization's new youth initiative. He will also turn his talents to various educational initiatives as part of his new role.

Leave No Trace extends great thanks and Bon Voyage to **Jennifer Tucker** who is headed back out on the road after her tenure first as a Traveling Trainer and then managing the Traveling Trainer program. Good luck Jen!



## DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY

Have you ever been hiking with a companion who, after a lunch stop, threw an apple core out into the woods thinking this was the best way to dispose of it? Your first reaction to your friend might be to ask them, "Do you see any apple trees around here?!" If you were walking through an apple orchard, that would be a unique situation as there are probably many apples already on the ground. In this situation, in the apple orchard, wildlife in the area would likely be accustomed to apples as a source of food. However, in most areas, wildlife are not accustomed to eating apples, or other human foods for that matter. The biggest problem with improperly disposing of food waste, e.g. tossing apple cores into the woods, is that it is ultimately harmful to wildlife. A secondary problem is aesthetic impact. Who wants to see a bunch of food waste lying around?

Apples and apple cores, or even orange peels, banana peels, nuts and candy, although biodegradable, are not native to most natural environments and certainly aren't thought of as suitable food for wildlife. Anything that we carry into the woods should come out of the woods with us. Otherwise it is simply trash. One apple core may not completely disrupt the local ecosystem, but litter *is* litter.

After all, even a Chevy will biodegrade given enough time. So where do you draw the line? Pack it In, Pack it Out!

Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters their natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers. News headlines are often made when wildlife is attracted to human food. Bears, more than any other animal, get the most press for tearing into tents, raiding food caches, coolers, and cars in search of a meal. Generally, however, campers and hikers have to deal with less threatening, but often more annoying, rodents, raccoons, birds, etc., looking for a handout. These animals are a nuisance and can be vectors for disease, not to mention that their dependence on human food is a detriment to their own well-being. Human foods are harmful to wildlife because animals would otherwise forage and eat a nutritious diet derived from their natural environment.

Animals are adept opportunists. When offered the temptations of an untidy backcountry kitchen, or a handout from a curious hiker (such as apple cores), animals can overcome their natural wariness of humans. Aggressive or destructive behavior may follow, and in conflicts with humans, animals ultimately lose. Prospects of an easy meal also lure wildlife into

hazardous locales such as campsites and trailheads, roads and entry points, where they are sometimes chased by dogs or hit by vehicles. They may also congregate in unnatural numbers, increasing stress and the spread of disease within their populations.

For these reasons, it is recommended that everything you pack in, be packed out—apple cores and all. Other things to consider when deciding how to properly dispose of waste:

- **Pack It In, Pack It Out** – Inspect your rest areas and campsite for trash or spilled foods. Pack out **all** trash, leftover food and litter.
- **Plan Meals** – Be sure to plan your meals to avoid mess, smelly garbage or excessive leftover food.
- **Disposing of Food** – Burning food is **not** an acceptable method of disposal. It takes a very hot fire to burn food, which can cause even greater resource impacts.
- **Before Moving On** – Before you leave an area, be sure to look around closely for "micro-garbage" that might accidentally be left behind such as small bits of food, cigarette filters, or organic litter such as orange peels or nut shells.

with other Master Educators and Trainers in Connecticut to provide Leave No Trace programs. Additionally, Blaine has been combining efforts with Ted Beblowski, New York State Advocate, to reach adult Boy Scout leaders.

### Dan Knippel, Florida State Advocate

Dan has been working with the Florida Trail Association to finalize plans to host twelve Trainer Courses over the next two years. The Trainer Courses will focus on the Florida Trail Association's Activity Leaders who are responsible for planning and leading hundreds of outings each year. With nearly 5,000 members, the Florida Trail Association is

responsible for maintaining a large portion of the hiking trails in Florida. These Trainer courses will be free. For information, please contact Dan at [info@naturalphotosafaris.com](mailto:info@naturalphotosafaris.com).

### Richard Angeli, Georgia State Advocate

Richard has had a busy year in Georgia spreading the Leave No Trace message and facilitating Trainer courses for Scouts and Scouters in Northern Alabama. He presented Leave No Trace for Stock at the Georgia Horse Fair and for various saddle clubs in his state. Richard has been working with Girl Scout leaders from all over the South and Mid-west.

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## FORTY-THOUSAND MILES, FORTY-ONE STATES, THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.

Throughout our journey this year, we have guided others to consider seven simple principles that reduce individual and cumulative impacts and enhance the outdoor experience. We have also talked through a complex web of ethical issues, again and again. With respect and support, we led numerous activities and discussions intended to raise the level of ethical awareness and action. Equally, these same activities suggest an awareness of different ethical behaviors.

One example of this difference was evident at a Boy Scout presentation in East Greenwich, Rhode Island. During a small group discussion of impacts, one of them being cell phone usage in the backcountry, we overheard a young scout asking why that would be such a problem. After the discussion, he stood up in front of the group and stated that he had not realized how his cell phone impacted others' experiences in the backcountry. He also stated that he would think twice before using a cell phone while hiking or backpacking. That is quite a statement from an 11-year-old.

Some of the most rewarding times came from teaching individuals who would otherwise not be introduced to Leave No Trace. One such event took place at Harrison Central High School in Gulfport, Mississippi. These were tenth through twelfth graders in a Marine/Aquatic Biology and Zoology/Botany class, some of them repeating the class for the second and third time. We felt we had a challenge to engage and involve these students to understand Leave No Trace as it relates to their coastal environment. They participated, sometimes reluctantly, in student led activities to teach their peers the seven principles, thus incorporating the "each one teach one" Leave No Trace motto. We left feeling good about the day but questioning our effectiveness with this particular group of students.

One week later, we received an email from the classroom teacher stating that she had administered a quiz on the seven principles and not one student missed a question! Also, while dissecting a fish, the students found a plastic bag in its stomach. They were able to relate the principle, *dispose of waste properly*, to their specific situation. The teacher also noted that the students picked up

trash around the outside classroom without being asked and felt this was in response to what they had learned about Leave No Trace. This and many other events like it remind us why we are on the road teaching Leave No Trace.

Numerous national park service staff have gone the extra mile in promoting Leave No Trace to their colleagues, visitors and nearby communities. In particular, we would award stars to Laura Cheek from Shenandoah National Park, Babette Collavo from the Great Smoky Mountain National Park and Charlie Jacobi from Acadia National Park. On a state level, we credit Jean Hoekwater from Baxter State Park for her support in promoting Leave No Trace in Maine and her perseverance in co-developing, along with Charlie Jacobi, a much needed Leave No Trace video tailored to the northeast. Each one of these individuals wears more hats than we can keep track of. Despite this, they personify characteristics showing organizational leadership, devotion to Leave No Trace and promotion of educational tools that inspire others to learn. We admire what they do.

When we started in January, we realized that we had a lot to offer yet much more to learn. One thing we discovered is how much people really care about their land. People love to recreate in the outdoors. Many of these people now realize the individual and cumulative effect that impacts can have on the quality of their recreational activities. We have been encouraged by wide spread acceptance of Leave No Trace and inspired by ethically motivated outdoor behavior that preserves special places. Thank you!

*Marcia & Gabriel Williamson*



ABOVE: MARCIA AND GABE WILLIAMSON, RETURNING AS TRAVELING TRAINERS IN 2003, WORK WITH STUDENTS FROM TOWSON UNIVERSITY.  
ABOVERIGHT: SHANE AND LINDSAY RIFFLE TAKE A BREAK IN THE ACTION TO TAKE IN SOME OF THE AMAZING COASTAL VIEWS ON THEIR JOURNEY.

The miles have racked up. Lindsay and I now realize that the people, places and landscapes we have encountered this year as Traveling Trainers have made lifelong impressions and will forever shape the way we perceive our culture and environment.

From the beginning we had a deep commitment to Leave No Trace, but through our experiences we have learned that there is much more to it than just seven principles. Often as we begin our presentations we introduce ethics and inspiration. We also talk about the fundamental idea that Leave No Trace is a process through which each person considers how their footsteps upon the land effect its integrity, and also the cumulative impact of the thousands that follow.

Essentially we all start somewhere on what we liken to an outdoor ethics continuum. Through insight and exploration, a sense of personal responsibility and commitment we are led to leave less and less of a trace. For us this inspiration has come from both learning

about the different challenges to the many ecosystems we have visited and also to the wonder we have encountered as people of all ages find their 'WOW' experience. Whether it is seeing a grizzly bear in the distance, discovering an ancient Anasazi pot sherd, or finding a young western red cedar growing up from the fallen trunk of a nurse log, we all have defining moments.

Below is an excerpt from our personal journal that can only begin to describe one of the many moments on the road that has shaped who we have become and how we relate Leave No Trace to those we meet.

*March, 2002: Around 4:00pm, we decided to take a two-mile roundtrip hike out to cement tanks where we hoped to find some more artifacts and do a quick clean-up on a trail used by undocumented aliens. Just outside of the dry wash running by camp, Israel found a very large pot, just slightly broken, but burried under a creosote bush. It was a burnt orange color and the largest exposed piece about the size of a head of lettuce. Excited, we all snapped some photos, then quickly chased Israel who seemed to constantly be hot on the "track" of*

*something. Among the many pot sherds he lead us to, Israel found a Matate, which admittedly was hard to leave as his new found ethics of leave what you found dictated.*

*Walking in this area was challenging though and we often had to backtrack or sidestep. Crustles, a form of cryptobiotic soil, seemed to grow in larger and larger patches, often on the shaded side of a bush or cactus, causing us to change routes. I took a couple of pictures of intact patches and others of those which had been trampled and dissected, possibly by undocumented aliens.*

*The closer we got to cement tank, the more and more litter we came across, all of it nearly the same. When these people come across the border, they usually only have the clothes on their back, a gallon sized milk jug filled with water and some tin cans with food. All of the labels were Mexican and their items were just discarded about their route with only the thought of making a life in the United States on their mind. Here, survival has superseded any outdoor ethic, especially in a culture not at all familiar with such a concept...*

*At cement tanks we followed Israel up a hill where the pot sherds were almost endless. We found flakes from quartz and flint, but we found the real prize was when Israel discovered an above-ground San Papago burial site. They had built a rectangle rock wall, about a foot high around the dead and then placed pots and personal items with the corpse. Around the site, we found some great painted pot sherds and even bone fragments from the occupant of the burial. In respect for the dead and the culture, we moved delicately as our hearts and imagination ran wild. This arc site was a new discovery, even the National Park Service staff were not aware of it.*

*The memories of this experience are priceless. I can't even fathom to guess how few people ever get such an opportunity to make such a discovery and fewer yet that would understand the significance and give it the due respect...*

From that moment on, we understood that there was much more to our roles as Traveling Trainers than teaching only skills. Our roles are all about the ethics and choices that we make. Inspiration can be derived from any medium, whether it be the erosion of Navajo Sandstone leaving arches through which we can peer across the desert or sitting under the stars with someone you love. In the end, inspiration is the key. It takes extra effort to minimize our impacts and to leave no trace, but we also realize that it is our responsibility to do what is right for the land, just because it is right.

We thank each person who has shaped our experiences on the road this year and truly appreciate the natural wonder that our mountains, deserts, rivers and forests have revealed to us. We are all in this journey together and we have to remember that this great land belongs to everyone and no one.



*Lindsay & Shane Riffle*

# FOCUS on Advocacy



State Advocates, trained Leave No Trace expert volunteers, act as ambassadors for their states by coordinating regional educational efforts, mobilizing volunteers and spreading the Leave No Trace message. Here are some highlights from various State Advocate programs. To find your State Advocate or learn more about the program log on to: [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org).



## TOM PODZIMEK, IOWA STATE ADVOCATE

I think two of the Leave No Trace principles that are hardest to produce a change in the actions of existing users are *minimize campfire impacts* and *dispose of waste properly*.

Because of my dreaded 'Longs Peak Campfire Incident' back in the 70's (this is another story for another day), I have used a stove in the backcountry for over 30 years.

When I first read the principles of Leave No Trace, I was basically on board. However I felt those principles made a big issue about poop. After all, the bear poops in the woods, the rabbit, the coyote, all those little critters poop in the woods. I am part of this environment. What was the big deal?

My formal poop training, like most, ended when I was two-years-old when I mastered the porcelain throne. Yet the first time I saw a Leave No Trace Master do a 'poop soup' demonstration, I was hooked. It was a wonderful blend of science tempered with common sense. I had many questions, why not let the coyotes eat it? Where do the pathogens come from? Why can't I drink the water anymore? What about my toothpaste? After all my questions were thoughtfully answered, the Instructor commented, "You know, you should become a Leave No Trace Trainer." Briefly describing what it was, I knew that it was something I wanted to do. About six months later I drove to Alabama with my wife Amy and our son Sam and we all became Leave No Trace Trainers. Since then, I have worked with Boy Scouts, the local mountain biking club, the Corps of Engineers, and local hunters to spread the message.

When the State Advocate Program came along I thought it would be a great way to increase the Leave No Trace presence in Iowa. With the help of a scholarship I was able to attend the Escalante National Monument Master Educator Course this spring and began serving as State Advocate shortly after. I'm in the process of introducing Leave No Trace to a widening audience of users groups including County Conservation personal, retailers, the National Guard, the local college, and others. I hope my tenure as State Advocate benefits this valuable program.

## ABBY SPOTSKEY, ARIZONA STATE ADVOCATE

"Hi, Leave No Trace!" is how I am greeted by the general manager of KNAU, our local National Public Radio station. Though "Leave No Trace" is not my name, it certainly is my

game here as the State Advocate for Arizona. Working with our local NPR station has been one strong vehicle for spreading the Leave No Trace message. KNAU broadcasts "Earth Notes" weekly and Leave No Trace has been one of their topics. As a former U.S. Forest Service employee on the Coconino National Forest, I saw how well the federal agencies use the system of national and regional coordinators to disseminate Leave No Trace information—from the top to the bottom, and right back up again. With such a great network, support and ideas, those of us working to spread Leave No Trace are better equipped to accomplish our individual goals. I've found my niche within the State Advocate Program making myself available for an array of Leave No Trace teaching opportunities from ten-minute introductory sessions to co-hosting Masters Courses. Through the Leave No Trace website and simply by word of mouth, I receive numerous requests to conduct Leave No Trace seminars. The only way I can fulfill these requests is through the volunteer efforts of the almost 150 active Trainers and Masters in Arizona. This year alone we have conducted Leave No Trace activities with over 30,000 people here in Arizona ranging from visiting Chilean park directors, outdoor retailers, sixth graders at summer camp, and outfitter guides preparing to raft the wilds of Grand Canyon. If radio station folks remember to "Leave No Trace" when they see my face, then I guess I don't mind my new name at all. I encourage you to contact your State Advocate or federal agency coordinator and help him or her get to know your face, share what you have been doing with your Leave No Trace activities. Working together is a great way to promote and inspire responsible outdoor recreation.

## Liz Garland, California State Advocate

The past six months have been exceptionally busy for Liz with Trainer courses, Masters Courses and short Leave No Trace presentations to community groups. In Northern California, three trainer courses were held targeting Boy Scout and Girl Scout adult volunteers. Master Educators traveled to the San Francisco, Lassen and Sacramento areas to present hour-long sessions on applying Leave No Trace ethics to Boy Scout and Girl Scout troop activities. A Masters Course held in Yosemite broke new ground with a visit from mule packer Ken Graves, a regional Leave No Trace coordinator for the U.S. Forest Service, who demonstrated minimum impact stock skills to the group.

## Blaine Boxwell, Connecticut State Advocate

Blaine has done a number of small group presentations to Boy Scout troops in Connecticut this year and has been working

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# kids ONLY



## Corner

Anna's

Girl Scout troop 2485 is in Virginia and consists of 23, 11 to 15-year-olds. My troop does it all. We camp, white water raft, ski and hike. When we do any of these things, we practice Leave No Trace. Last month we even brought in the Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers for more than one-hundred scouts in our county.

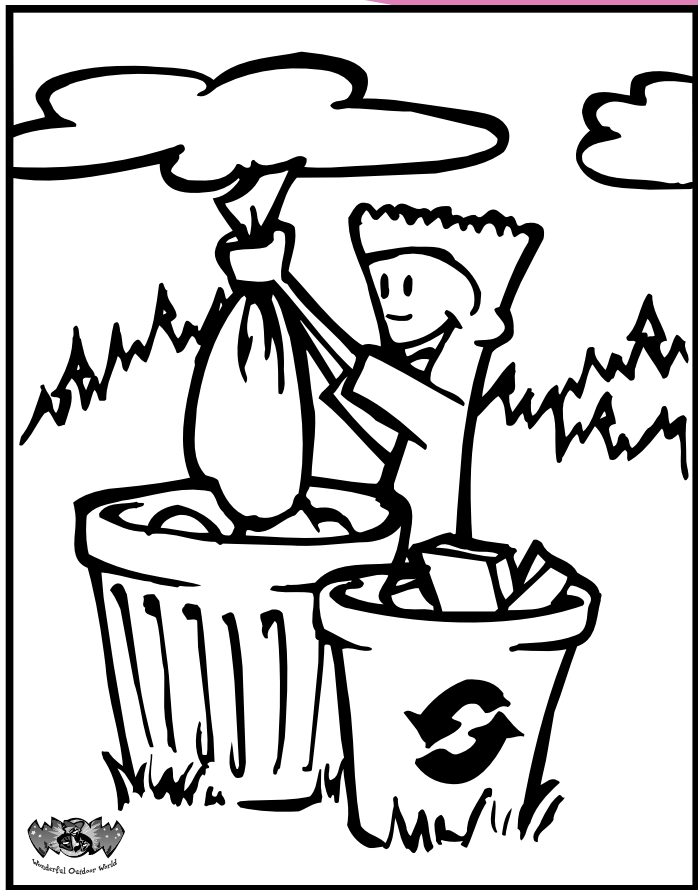


Anna Nielsen is 12 years old and lives in Virginia

When our troop went camping together last weekend we were astonished at how our camp site had been left. There was micro-trash

everywhere! So, of course, we picked it up and carried it out with us. When it was time to pitch our tents, we set them up on hard ground that had already been used. And we only used the fire ring that was already there.

When we camp or do anything as a troop we always follow the seven principles. Lots of people love to camp and to do outdoor activities. But many people do not understand that if they want nature to be as nice as it is now, then we all have to follow Leave No Trace.



## Trash Your Trash!

Pack it in, pack it out. Put litter, ~~litter~~ even crumbs, in trash cans or carry it home. Use bathrooms or outhouses when available. If you have to "go," ACT LIKE A CAT and BURY POOP in a small hole 4-8 inches deep and 100 big steps from water. Place your toilet paper in a plastic bag and put the bag in the garbage can back home. KEEP WATER CLEAN. Do not put soap, food, or poop in lakes or streams.

# GREAT THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY LEAVE NO TRACE SUPPORTER!

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Yosemite Mountaineering School, Yosemite, CA

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American Hiking Society  
American Mountain Guides Association  
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Colorado Mountain Club  
Continental Divide Trail Alliance  
CO State Univ. - Outdoor Adventure Program  
Deer Lake Wilderness School  
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Educo Outdoor Leadership School  
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Girl Scouts of AZ, Cactus Pine Council  
Girl Scouts, Shawnee Council  
Go For Green, CA  
Green Mountain Club  
Green Mountain College  
Int'l Mountain Bicycling Association  
High Mountain Institute  
Landmark Learning, LLC  
Little Miami, LLC  
Maine Appalachian Trail Club  
Maine Island Trails Association  
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National Environmental Education Training Foundation  
National Outdoor Leadership School  
Nevada Commission on Tourism  
Nevada Division of Wildlife  
Nevada Division of State Parks  
New York/ New Jersey Trail Conference  
New York State Outdoor Guides Association  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Niobrara Council  
North Idaho College, Outdoor Pursuits  
NWCC Wilderness Guiding Skills Program  
OpEPA  
Oregon Dept. of Forestry  
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Outward Bound USA  
Pacific Crest Trail Association  
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Passport to Wellness  
Pathways to Adventure  
Potomac Appalachian Trail Club  
Randolph Mountain Club  
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Roanoke River Partners, Inc.  
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Superior Hiking Trail Association  
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Teton Science School  
The Colorado Mountain Club  
The Great Outdoors Conservancy  
The SABENS Group  
The Wilderness Society  
Towson University, Campus Recreation Services  
United States Adventure Racing Association  
Univ. of CO, Outdoor Adventure Prog.  
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Outdoor Industry Association  
Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association  
National Outdoor Leadership School  
USDA Forest Service  
National Park Service  
Bureau of Land Management  
US Fish and Wildlife Service

Additionally, he has been facilitating a Leave No Trace program with the National Park Service at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park to develop messaging to reach their visitors.

**Kathi Stopher, Idaho Leave**

Idaho Masters have enjoyed the successes of a busy year! Thanks to the efforts of U.S. Forest Service partnerships, Kathi and others have reached many new wilderness user groups. They have focused on issues related to use of fire blankets for building mound fires, sanitation in the backcountry and large group use. In addition to a trained cadre of volunteers hitting the trail to make Leave No Trace contacts, Boy Scout camps were addressed weekly through the summer and through preparatory workshops in the winter. Backcountry horsemen clubs also delivered the message to stock users of all types through workshops.

**Douglas Wagoner, Indiana State Advocate**

As one of the newest state advocate, Douglas is just getting his feet wet with ideas about spreading the Leave No Trace message in the Hoosier State. He is a 22-year veteran of the Boy Scout program thus he is finding many opportunities to share Leave No Trace through this venue. Also, he has recently conducted the first for-credit Leave No Trace course at Indiana University.

**Jonathan Milne, Maine State Advocate**

Maine is continuing to experience large numbers of people spending time in its woods and on its waters. Jonathan is hopeful that many of the following activities will bare Leave No Trace fruit. They include Leave No Trace evening courses at Brunswick Naval Air Station this fall, Navy sponsored Leave No Trace Master Educator training at Dow Pines Outdoor Recreation Facility in Spring of 2003, and continued Leave No Trace discussions with large Maine landowners.

**Ted Beblowski, New York State Advocate**

Ted, a recent Master Educator Course graduate, has provided Leave No Trace at a number of different events in New York this year. Some of these events include the East Greenbush Winterfest, the Natural History Conference, an Earth Day event, several Boy Scout and Girl Scout events and training, the College Tour 2002 and many more. Ted also presented Leave No Trace to the New York SNG Cadet Corps.

**GIVE THE GIFT OF LEAVE NO TRACE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!**

*The perfect stocking stuffer!*

Leave No Trace membership for those who share your outdoor world: Simply fill out the form below.

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE**

- \* Personalized Leave No Trace membership card.
- \* One-year subscription to the Tracker, an informative, quarterly newsletter to keep you updated on Leave No Trace issues.
- \* Leave No Trace bumper sticker & reference card.
- \* 10% discounts on Leave No Trace educational

materials and merchandise.

- \* Invitations to attend events and presentations in your area by Leave No Trace field experts.
- \* The Membership Resource Guide to help you get involved and stay connected.
- \* The 18-month Leave No Trace Kid's calendar.
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- \* Satisfaction that you are playing an essential role in spreading the Leave No Trace message.

**ABOVE & BEYOND BENEFITS**

- \* \$35+ Membership: receive the North American edition of the Leave No Trace Skills & Ethics booklet.
- \* \$50+ Membership: receive the North American Skills & Ethics booklet and a Leave No Trace T-Shirt.
- \* \$100+ Membership: receive the North American Skills & Ethics booklet, a Leave No Trace T-Shirt and the Falcon Guide to Leave No Trace.

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- \$15 Introductory     \$250 Tracker
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- \$100 Advocate

- Please send an acknowledgement holiday card to the recipient of this membership.
- Please send an acknowledgement card to me so that I can hand deliver the gift membership.

In appreciation for this membership of \$50+, we would like to send the new member a Leave No Trace T-Shirt! Please circle the size:

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Leave No Trace is a 501(c)3, nonprofit organization, thus your contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

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- My check, made payable to Leave No Trace, is enclosed.
- Please charge my Visa or Mastercard [circle card type]:

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*Executive Director, Dana Watts*



I was aware of Leave No Trace long before I started working in the outdoor recreation field in the mid-nineties. Growing up in Colorado, I spent many weekends and summers outside camping with my family and later running and hiking the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. When I began my official work with Leave No Trace and had the opportunity to truly dig in, the program, ideology and skills, were so expansive, it was daunting. I asked myself again and again, "How am I ever going to digest all of this Leave No Trace, minimum impact information?"

After seven years with the program, I have a changed attitude about Leave No Trace skills and ethics. Leave No Trace is not only about remembering exactly what minimum impact skill you can practice in every outdoor situation—how far you should camp from water, where to set up your tent, how to build a fire or if you should build one in the first place. This list can go on and on. Leave No Trace, first and foremost, is about an attitude and an ethic. It's about caring and respecting

# OUTLOOK getting it all

wild lands. It's about a desire to do your part to protect our limited resources and protect future recreation opportunities. Once this attitude is adapted and the outdoor ethic is sound, the specific skills and techniques become second nature.

Beyond a personal commitment, there are many practices and details to be learned in order to make the best possible decisions when enjoying the outdoors.

The question that we all must know the answer to is the "why" Leave No Trace is so essential today. Many of the skills and techniques are based in research that specifically examines human recreational impacts. Many times people do not feel as though one small action or behavior can make a difference—positive or negative. I am committed to the idea that, equipped with Leave No Trace skills and techniques, we can drastically reduce our recreational impacts and not only maintain, but improve the condition of wild and natural lands, one person at a time.

Though it is easy to feel overwhelmed with all there is to know about Leave No

Trace, I suggest two small steps: 1) Spend a little time reading. This issue of the Tracker has great information about disposing waste as well as ideas to incorporate Leave No Trace into your community. You can always check out the changing news on the Leave No Trace website ([www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org)), invest in one of the newly revised additions of the Skills & Ethics booklet series, or consult one of the many great resources out there in bookstores specifically on Leave No Trace then; 2) Be deliberate. Take or teach a new Leave No Trace action the next time you're outside. Now that we are coming into winter, learn something new about traveling on snow. If you live in a perpetually warm climate, consider a new way to interact with your changing ecosystem.

Leave No Trace works so well when you, and the thousands like you, expand your skills and spread them to those who you spend that precious time with outside. Then know that your cumulative learning and teaching will make that inevitable difference beyond your imagination.

Leave No Trace  
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## **The Principles of Leave No Trace**

- (1) Plan Ahead & Prepare
- (2) Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
- (3) Dispose of Waste Properly
- (4) Leave What You Find
- (5) Minimize Campfire Impacts
- (6) Respect Wildlife
- (7) Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Leave No Trace