

THE Tracker

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEAVE NO TRACE CENTER FOR OUTDOOR ETHICS

SUMMER 2004



**Annual Report
2003 Inside!**

**LEAVING
YOUR MARK
IS OVERRATED**

**RIVER
CORRIDORS**

**EDUCATING
AMERICA'S
YOUTH**

**LEAVE NO TRACE
ACCESSIBILITY**

Plan Ahead & Prepare **1**

IN THIS ISSUE

- outlook 2
- what would you do 3
- dispatches 4
- news you can use 5
- feature 6
- notes from the field 8
- partners 10
- annual report 11
- tech tips 16



leaving your mark is overrated

To put it simply, sometimes leaving your mark is overrated. This may seem like a simple phrase, but it still has some resounding truth to it.

When I decided to move to Boulder, I left the humidity of Texas not knowing exactly where I was going to live or how I would make a living. I had an internship lined up at the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, didn't know a single person, and started working for the organization on my third day in town.

When I contacted Leave No Trace, I knew a reasonable amount about the organization, but had little idea about the expansiveness of their programs. You see, at first, I was more interested in the endless outdoor possibilities in Boulder than I was in fulfilling my college degree plan with some real-world experience called an "internship". It just seemed like a perfect excuse to go on an adventure and move to a Mecca of climbing, running, and all the mountains have to offer.

Despite the endless adventures in Colorado, I really decided to stay after my internship was finished because of the organization I was working with. Leave No Trace makes a difference. It is an organization that promotes more than just words and education, but a program that *works* because people like you are applying it in the places that you love.

At Leave No Trace, people are the most valuable resources. The Leave No Trace principles are merely principles without you, your support, and your belief that we are all making a difference in the way that we spend time outside, and how we spread the message to others.

If you are not already a member, becoming a member of Leave No Trace is one of the easiest and best ways for you to lend your vital support. Any tax-deductible contribution will help ensure that your greatest outdoor experiences will still be there, time after time.

Your support makes Leave No Trace the successful program that it is today. Even a poor college kid like me could see that leaving your mark isn't all it's cracked up to be.

THE Tracker

editor susy levin
art director allison bozeman

LEAVE NO TRACE Center for Outdoor Ethics
PO Box 997 Boulder, Co 80306
phone 303.442.8222 fax 303.442.8217
info@LNT.org 800.332.4100

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- joel stretch Membership & Outreach Coordinator
joel@LNT.org
- laura nilo Traveling Trainer Coordinator
laura@LNT.org
- kurt achtenhagen, CPA Director, Finance & Operations
kurt@LNT.org
- stephanie brooks Information Coordinator
stephanie@LNT.org
- joanne cowperthwaite Educational Programs Coordinator
joanne@LNT.org
- quinn crist-fulk Intern

TRAVELING TRAINER TEAMS

- marcia & gabe williamson mgwilliamson@LNT.org
- dave winter & betsy novak daveandbetsy@LNT.org

Last Tracker, we asked you:

While on a Saturday hike, groups of racers begin running by you. You step to the side of the trail and let each racer pass. After you have yielded to 40 odd runners without much forward progress yourself, you begin resisting the instinct to yield.

I would communicate. I'd politely ask one of the racers how many people are entered in the race. If the answer was a number I was not willing to deal with I would seek an alternate route, yielding along the way. If it was a small number, I would continue to yield then seek an alternate route. If I had properly planned ahead I would have been aware of the race and planned my trek accordingly. If the race was a spontaneous one, I would contact the organizers and suggest they plan ahead to avoid conflicts in the future. Communication is the key.

ANDY MILLS
SCITUATE, MA

If it happened once, I'd just deal with it though if it became a consistent race route, I'd contract the agency that managed the land to either avoid race dates or talk to them about their philosophy with regards to holding these sorts of races.

AMY DJVOK
MINNEAPOLIS, MN

I would pick up the pace.

DICK SONNER
SAN DIEGO, CA

What would you do?

what would you do?

new day packs for youths ready for circulation

How do kids learn about Leave No Trace? Drum roll please.

This summer, the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, in conjunction with REI, has introduced the newest adaptation of the PEAK (Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids) program: the PEAK Day Pack. PEAK was developed to teach kids about responsible behavior and stewardship when they spend time outside. Based on Leave No Trace's Seven Principles, PEAK incorporates elements of experiential and environmental education into activities designed for kids, ages 6-12.

PEAK's development over the last year has focused on gleaning shorter activities for leaders and participants with limited time. Thus, the PEAK Day Pack is being unveiled with four activities that can be delivered in 30-60 minutes. The program includes teaching props and supplemental materials already contained in the original PEAK Pack program. The PEAK Day Pack program is easy, entertaining and interactively engages kids.

Who can use the Day Pack? It is ideal for teachers, camp directors, youth group leaders, or any instructor who leads or teaches outdoor recreation skills or activities to children. REI will be applying this new version as part of their clinics and workshops at stores, nationwide.

If you would like to incorporate PEAK within your work, you can 1) contact your local REI store to inquire about clinics or 2) contact the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics to either check out or buy a pack. Many Leave No Trace State Advocates are actively using the PEAK Day Pack and the national office can assist you to determine if your State Advocate can be of help.

To learn more about this program or order a PEAK Day Pack, please contact Joanne Cowperthwaite (joanne@LNT.org) at the Center for Outdoor Ethics or visit www.LNT.org.



master educator course schedules

National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)

Date	Location	Activity
08/16-08/20	North Cascades National Park WA	Backpacking
09/13-09/17	Mt. Rogers National Rec Area VA	Backpacking
09/20-09/24	Olympic National Park WA	Backpacking
09/27-10/02	Green River/Labyrinth Canyon UT	Canoeing
10/25-10/29	Ouachita National Forest AR	Backpacking

Custom/Contract Courses: If there are no courses offered in your geographic area, NOLS may be able to design a custom or contract to meet your needs. This can be a great way for organizations to train their staff at substantial cost savings. Contact the NOLS Leave No Trace office for details.

For more information contact:
Michael Cheek • National Outdoor Leadership School • 288 Main Street, Lander, WY 82520 • 1.800.710.NOLS (6657) • michael_cheek@nols.edu

Appalachian Mountain Club

Date	Location	Activity
9/13 - 9/17	Boundary Waters Canoe Area, MN	Canoeing
9/20 - 9/24	Adirondack State Park, NY	Backpacking
10/4 - 10/8	Hulbert Outdoor Center, Fairlee, VT	Backpacking
10/18 - 10/22	Delaware Water Gap, NJ	Backpacking

AMC is exploring the possibility of scheduling a Leave No Trace Master course in either Quebec or Ontario, Canada in 2004. Please contact Dara Johnson if you are interested in a Canadian course. • If you have a group of at least 7 people who cannot attend a currently scheduled course, contact AMC about the possibility of a custom Master course. • To register for a course, first complete and submit the Leave No Trace AMC Master Course Application. Once your application is approved, the AMC will contact you to complete your registration.

For more information contact:
Dara Johnson • AMC Leave No Trace Coordinator • 603-466-2721, ext. 209 • djohnson@amcinfo.org



nike/acg brings leave no trace into its adventure racing fold

In May, Leave No Trace traveled to Beaver Creek, Colorado to conduct a special forum for the Nike ACG/Balance Bar championship winning adventure racing team.

The team had the opportunity to discuss issues of environmental concern to them when they race. Together with Leave No Trace, they decided to create a program that would give the new population of adventure racers a better understanding and appreciation for outdoor ethics.

Team Nike ACG /Balance Bar, as well as other teams, will take a few minutes at pre-race meetings to highlight the principles of Leave No Trace. "While the challenge is great, the goal is simple," says Nike/ACG. "Once every athlete crosses the finish line, we want the wilderness to remain as it was before the starting gun ever went off."

leave no trace executive director listed in backpacker's top ten

Dana Watts, Leave No Trace's executive director, was celebrated in June's Backpacker magazine with Al Franken, John McCain, Yvon Chouinard and others for her decade of service and outreach on behalf of minimum-impact outdoor skills and ethics.

l.l.bean spreads the word

L.L. Bean sent 300,000 Leave No Trace informational pieces to customers this spring in their continued efforts to support Leave No Trace. The mailing is one of many L.L. Bean has conducted in the last several years to raise awareness about the program.

river corridors: newest reference offering

The Center, with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the River Management Society, recently developed the newest Leave No Trace educational resource, the River Corridor plastic reference card. This reference card is universal, giving basic information for Leaving No Trace on rivers from California to Maine. Reference cards are available from the Center for \$.25 each.

online trainer course reporting

In the continuing efforts to award Leave No Trace Trainer certificates to new Trainers efficiently, the Center has developed an online reporting system. Currently, the Center for Outdoor Ethics sends each new Trainer a certificate when the Master Educator who facilitated the course submits a course roster including participant information. To make this process easier, Master Educators can now log-on to www.LNT.org and select "Training Course Information." Once on the Training page, Masters complete a simple form that is submitted directly to the Center. For more information about Trainer course reporting, please contact Joel Stretch, Membership/Outreach Coordinator, Joel@LNT.org or 1.800.332.4100 x 105. In 2005, Master Educators who do NOT submit Trainer course rosters through our online system will be assessed a fee of \$1.00 per new Trainer.

leave no trace info for the frontcountry

The Center for Outdoor Ethics, in conjunction with Clif Bar, recently produced an informational brochure for Frontcountry. Frontcountry environments are outdoor areas that are easily accessible by vehicle and mostly visited by day users (some overnight camping also takes place in Frontcountry areas). This new brochure includes Frontcountry-specific information on traveling and camping, recreating with pets, proper waste disposal, leaving what you find, being careful with fires and keeping wildlife wild. This general

information is appropriate for anyone who enjoys spending time in the Frontcountry, and is suitable for all ages. Copies of the new brochure can be obtained from the Center for \$.50 each.



weird science

Have you ever been asked any of the following questions and did not know the answer?

"Why do I have to wash my dishes 200 feet away from water sources?"

"Why can't I pick this flower?"

"Why shouldn't I cut the switchbacks on the trail?"

"Why do I have to hang my food in bear country?"

"How long does it take an apple core to decompose?"

If your answer is yes, you're not alone! While the seven Leave No Trace Principles are relatively straightforward, the esoteric science behind them is often illusive. When the Leave No Trace program was formed, there was little science to back up its recommendations. Today, as the program has matured and developed, so too has the body of science that reinforces the Principles.

The field of science that the Leave No Trace program most heavily relies on is known as recreation ecology. Recreation ecology is the study of recreation-caused impacts that examines ways those impacts can be reduced by land managers and recreationists. Additionally, social science research sheds light on visitor perceptions and behaviors and gives insight into how to promote long-term behavioral change.

Scientists who are associated with universities or federal land management agencies facilitate the majority of Leave No Trace-related research. In some cases, federal agencies such as the U.S. Forest Service or the National Park Service also conduct their own research that the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics references.

Over the years, many studies have been performed to look more deeply into various aspects of the Leave No Trace Principles. As new information comes in, the Center for Outdoor Ethics is able to adjust and update minimum impact techniques and recommendations.

If you are interested in learning more, select titles of Leave No Trace-related research include:

- + Disturbance of natural vegetation by camping: experimental applications of low-level stress.
- + Recreation impacts and management in Wilderness: A state-of-knowledge review.
- + The fate of feces and fecal microorganisms in human waste smeared on rocks in an arid environment and its impact on public health.
- + Recreational trampling experiments: effects of trampler weight and shoe type.

- + Recreation impacts in some riparian forests of the Eastern United States.
- + Frontcountry Leave No Trace Program Evaluation: outdoor education, litter, dogs and behavioral change.
- + A project to survey visitor behavior and receptivity regarding proper disposal of human waste in the Weminuche Wilderness, Colorado.

For more information or to obtain copies of any of the research projects mentioned above, consider visiting the following websites:

<http://www.lnt.org/Research/research.literature.php>
<http://www.wilderness.net/index.cfm?fuse=library>
<http://www.nols.edu/resources/research/index.shtml>
<http://www.cnr.vt.edu/forestry/cpsu/rececol.html>

Now, the next time someone asks you an obscure statistic about outdoor use or why a particular Leave No Trace recommendation is made, you may just have the answer. ▲

Ben Lawhon is the Education Director for the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics.

traveling trainers: booked and trading spaces

It is official! The 2004 Subaru/Leave No Trace Traveling Trainer calendar is booked, solid. In efforts to reach new populations and attend diverse events, we have begun taking requests for the 2005 season. If you know of an event or would like to host the Traveling Trainers, please go to www.travelingtrainers.org and request a visit.

For the Traveling Trainers, August means trading places. After the first half of the year training and education hundreds of thousand of people in the Eastern half of the United States, Team East (Dave Winter and Betsy Novak) will be passing on their John Cougar CD's to Marcia and Gabe Williamson, who have been in place as Team West since January. As of August 16 the Williamsons will be rocking out across the East Coast and Dave and Betsy will be transitioning to some Rocky Mountain Bluegrass. ▲

CORRECTION: *Linda Serdiuk was unintentionally omitted from the Board of Directors list in the Winter 2004 Tracker. Serdiuk, from Backcountry Horsemen of America has served on the Board since 2002.*



In the pursuit of wilderness preservation, few voices have the potential to carry further than those of America's university students. In an atmosphere like the Outdoor Recreation Program at Northern Arizona University, known as NAU Outdoors, these voices carry with enthusiasm and creativity providing fresh ideas and energy at every turn on the trail.

Undergraduate NAU Outdoors student Annemari Romero's enthusiasm for teaching Leave No Trace was not unique. That enthusiasm earned her assignments as a co-instructor on our Leave No Trace Trainer Courses. What was unique, however, was the fact that Annemari used a

While Annemari was very experienced in the field, I had never been in the outdoors with her before, nor had I ever run a Trainer Course with a deaf student as a participant.

Realizing that Annemari would require the use of snow fencing to convert our sandy campsite into a navigable surface, we first mapped out our site, designating a kitchen area and classroom which we could connect by staking down the snow fencing. The material, of course, was day-glow orange, but by mapping out our site in such a way that our group space and kitchen were near to each other and near to Annemari's tent site, we minimized the visual impact of the brightly colored surface while not compromising anyone's need for space or freedom of mobility.

Once we had settled into camp, we

trainer course. Demonstrating the use of a fire pan, we prepared main courses and desserts in two dutch ovens, and a number of side dishes on gas stoves, each with its own personal touch.

After dinner, we continued with our theme of minimizing campfire impacts. It was then that students began to catch on to the dynamics of communicating with Cal. The temptation to address comments and questions to Cal's interpreters instead of Cal was prevalent at first, though as soon as participants became aware of it, they were able to temper it, communicating more naturally with Cal.

After plenty of visiting and reflecting, we settled in for a game of Arizona natural history trivia while others headed off to bed. All possible doubts about the course had



LEAVE NO TRACE REDISCOVERED BY JUSTIN WOOD

REDISCOVERED

AN ARIZONA EDUCATOR'S JOURNEY INTO INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

wheelchair. This mere fact redefined Leave No Trace for me and demonstrated just how effective the Leave No Trace ethic truly is.

Annemari attended her first Leave No Trace Trainer Course with me in Clear Creek Wilderness near Camp Verde, Arizona. A fine juxtaposition of federally designated wilderness and designated dispersed camping on adjacent forest service land provided a stark contrast of varied impacts that leave indelible impressions on the visitor.

Annemari knew the area well and helped to round up the different materials that she and others would need to navigate in the backcountry. We loaded the group gear and some snow fencing into the van and were on our way. Following us were two interpreters to assist one of our course participants, Cal, who is deaf.

This was uncharted territory for me.

gathered for a student-led presentation and then took a break to explore the creek. Through the use of an improvised system of poles that would fasten to the axle of Annemari's chair, I was able to assist with on-trail travel on a short hike to the creek. The importance of traveling on suitable, durable surfaces seemed especially pertinent to me as the two of us strained up the sandy hill we had come down, unwittingly, only moments earlier. We were exhausted when we reached the top, but had earned ourselves a long laugh. I was thrilled to see "the rickshaw" as this technique is known, in action. The rickshaw was developed at Northern Arizona University's Environmental Restoration Institute, for whom Annemari also did field work.

We returned to camp and set about the task of preparing dinner, one of the most impressive potluck feasts I have seen on a

been dispelled—everyone was comfortable, fully participating, smiling, teaching and learning about Leave No Trace.

On the second day, we woke with the sun and further discussed Leave No Trace Principles through student-led activities, lecture, and discussion. Hitting the trail early in the day, Annemari informed the group of the surface types that would be most suitable for her to travel on. The suspension and tires with which she'd outfitted her chair along with the rickshaw were a big help and also were interesting for the group, whose understanding of "accessible" was, perhaps, changed forever that day. Our designated scout would move ahead of our group, identifying sections of trail that were not ideal for Annemari's chair, then Annemari would decide how she would be most comfortable handling the situation. Sometimes she would navigate

through independently, and other times we would lift and carry her chair as a group.

What was most unique and remarkable about the course was that the spirit of inclusiveness was as powerful as students' commitment to preserving the quality of wilderness. Being considerate of other visitors became a process of discovery where each person, at some point, was forced to view the wilderness from a different perspective to ensure that the course was successful. The diverse atmosphere accentuated the constant opportunity for both outright and tacit discovery.

Annemari had her own triumph—this was the first time she had attended a Leave No Trace Trainer Course, and she would go on to co-instruct many more courses before graduating.

NAU Outdoors thanks Annemari for her teaching and for inspiring our progress toward inclusiveness and

Snow fencing creates a wheelchair pathway at this campsite in Clear Creek Wilderness, Arizona.

more adaptive outdoor programs. During this course, I came to understand that this paradigm was the necessary and right model for this NAU program.

After having led a number of Leave No Trace Trainer Courses throughout Arizona, this experience helped me rediscover the vitality of Leave No Trace as an ethic. I also gained a new appreciation for the flexibility and subsequent effectiveness of the Trainer Course format as well as the curriculum. I discovered that it is difficult to let nature's sounds prevail for the deaf, and that other aspects of the experience become more important as a result. I found that Leave No Trace teaches us to preserve the quality of these aspects of others' experiences also, even in ways that I cannot begin to imagine experiencing the backcountry myself.

Lastly, our students discovered not only a great deal about the history, principles and practice of Leave No Trace, but also about its adaptations. This made the program more accessible to diverse populations. We thank the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, the US Forest Service, and Northern Arizona University, and we wish our students all the best as they go on to use these skills and perspectives as outdoor professionals. ▲

Justin Wood is the Coordinator for NAU Outdoors. He lives near Flagstaff, Arizona and enjoys backpacking, boating, and most all things outdoors, with a special fondness for climbing.



Trainer Course participants assist Annemari's wheelchair up a rocky pathway on one of the group teaching outings.

notes from the field

On the Road Towards Educating American Kids Team West: Marcia and Gabe

"IF WE CAN TEACH OUR CHILDREN TO HONOR NATURE'S GIFTS, THE JOYS AND BEAUTIES OF THE OUTDOORS WILL BE HERE FOREVER."
- JIMMY CARTER

It is early on a Saturday morning when we pull into an REI store parking lot in Corte Madera, California. The drive along highway 101 had just provided us with the opportunity to review the PEAK (Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids) workshop we are about to deliver to REI store employees. Upon being met by Doug Schmidt, the store manager, we are led to the shoe department: today's "conference room". We unpack teaching materials, test the video and record the agenda on a dry-erase board.

According to the Association for Experiential Education, "Experiential education is a philosophy and methodology in which educators purposefully engage with learners in direct experience and focused reflection in order to increase knowledge, develop skills and clarify values." We adhere to this philosophy as we embark upon today's task as Traveling Trainers.

We begin the formal lecture portion of the workshop with introductions inviting the sharing of names, PEAK teaching experiences and an overview of the program including goals, learning outcomes, targeted age groups and tips for teaching.

For the next hour-and-a-half, we introduce four challenging and fun activities that teach kids about Leave No Trace principles and ethics. We encourage the staff to think and act like 10-year-olds, always an easy task for some. To foster inquisitiveness, we lead activities by posing questions these participants can answer. We always try to invite creativity and work on problem solving skills to support these efforts. We coached these soon-to-be youth leaders, offering anecdotal experiences and promoting reflection.

In a unique partnership with REI, Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics developed the PEAK program with the aim of teaching children about Leave No Trace

that will help them minimize their impacts while enjoying the outdoors. This year, we will train staff in 31 stores across the country. In turn, REI employees will deliver the PEAK program using experiential activities within their respective communities. This is a worthy investment of time and resources in our eyes and teaching PEAK has been a very meaningful part of our work this year.

Thank you REI for stepping up to the plate! Your investment in children creates hope that future generations of outdoor enthusiasts will care enough to protect our natural world.



"The 'nose' knows."
Gabe Williamson asks, "What Principle Am I?" as he leads a PEAK workshop for REI employees at their Denver store. This year, REI store employees are being trained, nationwide, to teach this youth-based environmental education program.
{above}

Looking For Some New Wheels?

This is how the Subaru VIP program works:

1. You get warm and fuzzy about disposing of waste properly and you show your support by becoming a member of Leave No Trace.
2. After 6 months of utilizing public transportation and

reading our newsletters cover to cover, you spend some time thinking about buying a car.

3. After some research you decide to purchase a Subaru.
4. You contact Laura at The Center for Outdoor Ethics with your name, address, member number and the dealer you plan on

As the old man walked the beach at dawn, he noticed a young man ahead of him picking up starfish and flinging them into the sea. Finally, catching up to the youth, he asked him why he was doing this. The answer was that the stranded starfish would die if left in the morning sun. "But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," counter the other. "How can your effort make any difference?" The young man looked at the starfish in his hand then threw him safely in the waves. "It makes a difference to this one," he said. —Anonymous

Making a Difference Dave & Betsy: Team East

It began as a typical day at Kimbal Elementary in Michigan. When Dave and Betsy arrived for an assembly they were greeted by two hundred jittery and just fed sugar-cereal 2nd thru 5th graders. Dave started the assembly with stories of their travels across country. Rows of colorful eyes opened wide in awe of these gypsies who had traveled so far to visit them. Dave then asked if they could help his good friend the Impact Clown go on her first hike and within seconds the entire gym was cheering and waving.

Volunteers from the audience became the flowers, deer, sun, clouds, and trees. Just as the nature scene was getting into position, a loud,

brightly clothed and decorated Impact Clown cart wheeled into the room. The students began to laugh as she danced to the trailhead.

Dave, the students and the Impact Clown packed her backpack. Along the trail she was confronted with a number of decisions; should she pick the flowers, step off trail, feed the deer, throw her trash on the ground, carve into a tree, or take a bath in the lake? Each time the Impact Clown was in the midst of creating an impact the boys and girls would yell "OH NO!" and then explain how she was hurting nature.

After the assembly, a 4th grade boy grabbed Dave's attention with his story. "One day my friends and I were playing in the forest behind my house." Dave lowered himself to one knee and looked the boy in the eyes as he continued to listen. "While we were playing we came across a opossum skull and vertebrae bones... I picked up the bones and carried them home with me." There was a momentary pause and then the boy exclaimed, "I now think I maybe should have left them alone so others could see them." The look on the boys face was touching, Dave smiled and comforted him by saying, "That's okay bud, one time I got all soapy and jumped in a lake because I thought it was super cool to watch the bubbles rise to the surface of the fresh water. Now we both know what we can do next time..."

The boy smiled and Dave gave him a pat on the back. The boy went back to his class and Dave continued to pack up. Indeed our brief stop in a small town in Michigan made a difference in one starfish's life.

"It matters to this one..."
After an evening presentation at Pinkam Notch Visitor Center, D.J., a member of the audience enthusiastically shows David where he will be going hiking the next day. {below}



Subaru | Leave No Trace
TRAVELING TRAINERS



purchasing your new car from.

5. The Center verifies your membership information and we process your paperwork. (This process takes 24 hours)

6. After 24 hours you call the dealer you are using and make sure they have received the paperwork.

7. You go to the dealer and are presented with the discount savings.

If at any point you have questions, call Laura Nilo at (800) 332-4100 ext. 106. Please be aware that The Center for Outdoor Ethics is not able to quote discount amounts.

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Patrons have formed long-term partnerships, contributing a minimum of \$25,000 annually and often developing co-branded programs.
Galyan's
L.L. Bean
REI
Subaru of America

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Above annual corporate contributions, Special Project Partners have committed additional funds to support a specific Leave No Trace program or initiative.

American Backcountry
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Galyan's
Grand Teton Lodge Company
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Lee's Sport & Sportswear, Kalamazoo, MI
Martin Creek Kayak Center, Seneca, SC
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Peregrine Outfitters, Williston, VT
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Timberline Adventures, Dallas, TX
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Track 'n Trail, Champaign, IL
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Yosemite Concession Services, Yosemite, CA

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Adventure Professionals, Inc., Seattle, WA
Adventure Tourism Golden Campus, Golden, CO
Alpine Ascents International, Seattle, WA
Alaska Outdoors LLC, Wasilla, AK
American Alpine Institute, Bellingham, WA
Austin Lehman Adventures, Billings, MT
Escape Adventures, Inc. Charleston, NV
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Noah's Ark Whitewater Rafting, Buena Vista, CO
Northwest Adventures, Ellensburg, WA
Outdoor ESCAPES New Hampshire, LLC
Rainier Mountaineering, Ashford, WA
Rosebud Llama Utah, Fruitland, UT
Ryftful Adventures, Marathon, FL
Sinbad Tours, Salt Lake City, UT
The River Connection, Pleasant Valley, NY
Vert et Mer Expedition and Formation, PQ, Canada
Wet Planet Rafting, Inc., White Salmon, WA
Whitewater Challengers, Old Forge, NY
Wilderness Adventures at Eagle Landing, New Castle, VA
Yosemite Mountaineering School, Yosemite, CA

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Association of Experiential Education, Boulder, CO
Baylor University, Baylor, TX
Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center, Breckenridge, CO
Deer Lake School, Killington, CT
Educo, Loveland, CO
Go for Green, Ottawa, ON, Canada
Grand Teton Natural History Association, Moose, WY
Green Mountain College, Poultney, VT
High Mountain Institute, Leadville, CO
Indiana University Outdoor Adventures, Bloomington, IN
Int'l Sustainable Development Studies Institute
Landmark Learning, LLC, Cullowhee, NC
Merle Thorpe, Jr. Charitable Trust, Thurmont,

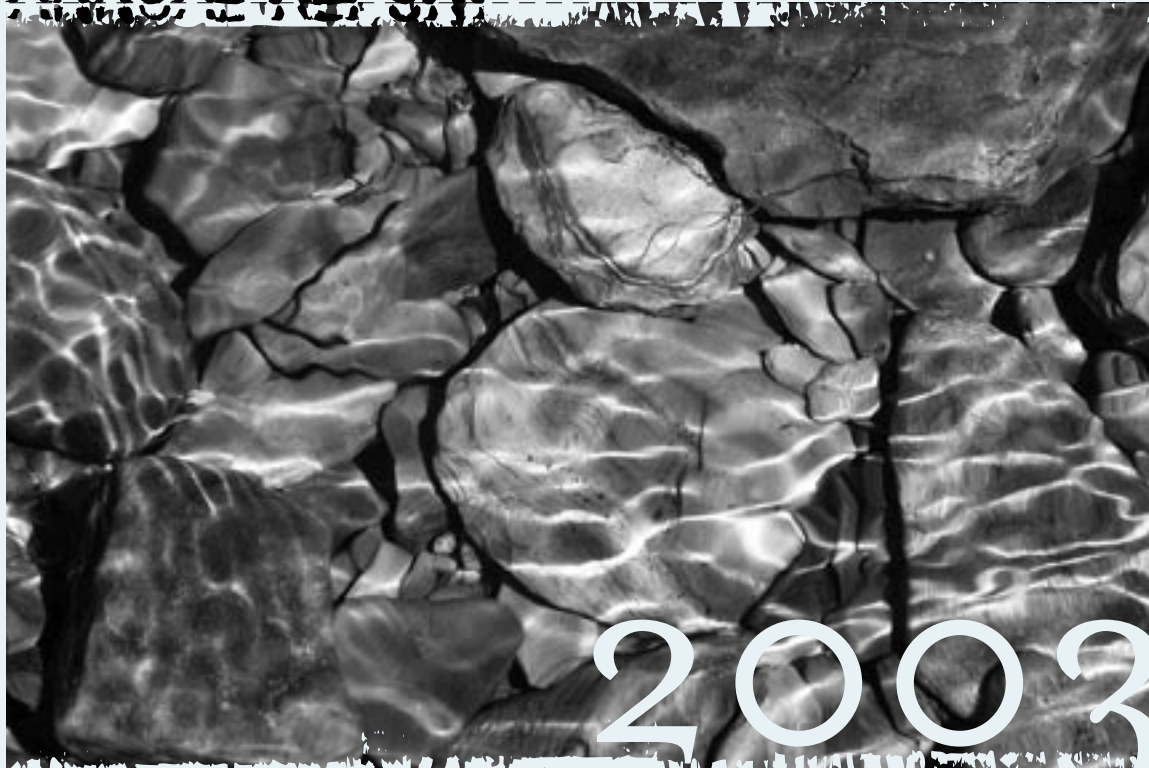
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National Outdoor Leadership School, Lander, WY
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Rocky Mountain Nature Assoc., Estes Park, CO
Santa Rosa Clean Community System (Rivers Watch), Milton, FL
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Teton Science School, Kelly, WY
Texas A & M Commerce Climbing and Outdoor Adventure Program, Commerce, TX
Tyler Junior College, Tyler, TX
Therapeutic Adventures, Inc., Charlottesville, VA
Towson University, Campus Recreation Services, Towson, MD
University of California Santa Barbara Adventure Program, Santa Barbara, CA
University of Denver Alpine Club, Denver, CO
University of Mississippi, University, MS
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American Hiking Society, Silver Spring, MD
American Mountain Guides Association, Boulder, CO
American Whitewater, Silver Spring, MD
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Appalachian Trail Conference, Hapers Ferry, WV
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Around-N-Over, Seattle, WA
Backcountry Horseman of America, Graham, WA
Backcountry Horseman of America High Country, Susanville, CA
Backcountry Horseman of America Middle Rio Grande Chapter, Los Lunas, NM
Backcountry Horseman of America Mid Valley Unit, Furlock, CA
Back Country Horsemen of East Tenn., Bluff City, TN
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Arkansas, Springdale, AR
Boy Scouts of America, Irving, TX
Camp Chief Ourgy/YMCA of Rockies, Granby, CO
Camp Tekakewitha, Loretteville, Quebec, Canada and Leeds, ME
Camtown, Inc, Carmel, IN
Colorado Fourteener's Initiative, Golden, CO
Colorado Mountain Club, Golden CO
Continental Divide Trail Alliance, Pine, CO
Florida Trail Association, Gainesville, FL
Foothills Equestrian Nature Center, Inc. Georgia Appalachian Trail Club, Atlanta, GA
Girl Scouts - Arizona Cactus Pine Phoenix, AZ
Girl Scouts, Lake Erie Council, Cleveland, OH
International Mountain Biking Association, Boulder, CO
Little Miami, LLC, Milford, OH
Maine Conservation School, Bryant Lake, ME
Maine Island Trails Association, Portland, ME
Mid-East RC & D Council, Greenville, NC
New England Discovery, Newport, MA
New York/ New Jersey Trail Conference, New York, NY
Outdoor Campus Engineers, Boulder, CO
Outdoor Industry Association, Boulder, CO
Outward Bound Canada, Thunder Bay, Canada
Pacific Crest Trail Association, Sacramento, CA
Patriots' Path Council, Boy Scouts America, Florham Park, NJ
Park Stewardship through the Arts, Palms, CA
Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Vienna, MD
Randolph Mountain Club, Randolph, NH
River Management Society, Missoula, MT
Saco River Project of The Nature Conservancy, Freyburg, ME
San Juan Mountains Association, Durango, CO
Scouts Canada, Ottawa, Canada
See you at the Top, Denver, CO
Student Conservation Association, Seattle, WA
Show Me Missouri Chapter Backcountry Horsemen of America, Republic, MO
Sierra Club Foundation, San Francisco, CA
The Sierra Club, San Francisco, CA
The Tahoe Rim Trail Association, Incline Village, NV
US Snowshoe Association Plattsburgh, NY
Washington Water Trails Association (WWTA), Seattle, WA
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Wind River Backcountry Horsemen, Riverton, OR
Wonderful Outdoor World, Burbank, CA
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Woodens River Watershed Environmental Program, Nova Scotia, Canada
Wyoming Chapter Backcountry Horseman of America, Lander, WY
Yellowstone Association, Gardener, MT
PARKS/ MUNICIPALITY/AGENCIES
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Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
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Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Dover, DE
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Government Canyon State Natural Area, San Antonio, TX
Jefferson County Open Space, Golden, CO
Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands, Augusta, ME
Monmouth County Park System, Lincroft, NJ
National Environmental Education Training Foundation, Washington DC
Nevada Division of State Parks, Carson City, NV
Niobrara Council, Valentine, NE
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Ozark Society, Inc, Little Rock, AR
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outfitters,
educational
institutions,
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and more
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dollars to
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program.

ANNUAL REPORT



ANNUAL REPORT TWO THOUSAND AND THREE

Helping protect and preserve the integrity of the outdoors and ensure the future of outdoor recreation experiences are both core to the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethic's mission. In 2003, we worked to reach more people with Leave No Trace education both nationally and around the globe. We broadened our focus to urban and sub-urban environments, grew our membership by over 100%, helped develop our first international branch, Leave No Trace Australia, brought the PEAK youth program to a new level, and inspired more volunteerism to help spread our message. In 2003, these actions, and education efforts across the country and internationally, created millions of outdoor stewards who are inspired to care for our precious outdoor places.

In 2003, the Center made tremendous strides in building our most important assets—volunteers and members. These like-minded

people believe that Leave No Trace is making a positive difference in the health and integrity of the outdoors. Our volunteers reached out to thousands of individuals and groups from over 100,000 hikers along the Appalachian Trail to 25,000 Girl Scouts in California.

It is these volunteers that inspired the Dynamic Dozen, a list of twelve exceptional people who made 2003 a memorable year—people like Babette Callavo from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park or volunteer State Advocate, Ted Beblowski, have helped change the landscape of Leave No Trace. With the support of individuals and organizations like these, and the many others that make up the Leave No Trace program today, we reaffirm our vision of a future where all outdoor enthusiasts embrace one ethic and work together to preserve wild and natural lands.

Dana Watts, Executive Director

The Dynamic Dozen Twelve People We Love

A model volunteer and state advocate, **TED BEBLOWSKI** travels throughout New York, meeting and training thousands of people every year. Beblowski also weaves Leave No Trace into his day job as a museum curator.

One of Canada's great champions of Leave No Trace has organized and taught Leave No Trace workshops all over Western Canada. **DEBBIE VAN BERKEL** has recently pooled creative people, organizations, companies and agencies from all over the nation to officially bring Leave No Trace to Canada.

Though her long list of Leave No Trace accomplishments within her National Park Service position could be described as infinite, what Collavo's managed single-handedly no short of is visionary. A recent estimation of people who received Leave No Trace education directly from **BABETTE COLLAVO** in a year's time topped 12,000.

Committed to spread Leave No Trace wherever she roamed, **LIZ GARLAND** has done just that. She has been responsible for sharing Leave No Trace with thousands of California youths, played a key role in the 2003 Leave No Trace membership drive and in her "spare" time serves as California's volunteer State Advocate.

A strong environmental voice for years, **DAVID JAYO** from REI has had his hands firmly planted in the vision and development of PEAK (Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids) and as a board member, has moved a long list of initiatives into fruition.

From Appalachian Mountain Club seasonal staff, to courses and workshops with the general public, **DARA JOHNSON**, the Leave No Trace coordinator for the Appalachian Mountain Club, has made an exceptional showing on behalf of Leave No Trace in her region, infusing it into every population that she interacts with.

A member of the Private Boaters Coalition, **CHRISTINA KING** has worked exhaustively to spread the Leave No Trace message to paddlers using the Arkansas River in Colorado. King takes Leave No Trace to such heart that she has even voluntarily coordinated numerous Leave No Trace trainings for river users, outfitters, and guides.

Acting as guardian for the Subaru/Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers, **LEW LEVINE** is involved with them on a daily basis personally and professionally. He has helped Leave No Trace reach over a million



Subaru/ Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers

THE FOLLOWING ARE TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS AND PHOTOS FROM THE TWO TEAMS OF TRAINERS WHO HIT THE ROAD IN 2003, SPREADING THE WORD OF LEAVE NO TRACE.

LOCATION: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED: 8,500
DATE: FEBRUARY 14-16, 2003

OUTSIDE TRAVEL EXPO The Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers braved icy roads and gale force winds to make it to the Outside Travel Expo, formerly known as IATOS. It is the world's largest exhibition showcasing destinations, guided trips and products from all areas of the travel market including adventure, eco and active travel. The

Traveling Trainer booth bustled with the excitement of individuals looking for ways to incorporate Leave No Trace into their activities and learning about getting involved as Leave No Trace partner.

LOCATION: WELDON, CA
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED: 175
DATE: MARCH 3, 2003

LEAVE NO TRACE AWARENESS WORKSHOP FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS Located in the Kern River Valley, South Fork Middle School takes every student on an outdoor trip. This past year they

people instead of thousands in 2003 and has been responsible for planting essential seeds to help the organization build constituents.

Involved since the beginning, **JEFF MARION** has played so many roles with the Leave No Trace program, that it's hard to keep track. The Virginia Tech Professor has been pivotal in shaping Leave No Trace education, training, and research for almost a decade.

Off-the-chart energy has led **JOANNE SHIFFER-BURDETTE's** (California Bureau of Land Management) work with the Girl Scouts' "Linking Girls to the Land Initiative", creating a network of volunteers to train and teach Leave No Trace. Her scorecard also includes training youth camp directors and staff as well as Federal Agency employees.

JOHN VOORHEES, a staunch Leave No Trace advocate became the president of the Leave No Trace Board of Directors in 2001 offering his law firm's services to the organization and providing an infectious, philosophical enthusiasm in his leadership along with hours of service to the organization.

With the campaign slogan, "One more year" **GABE AND MARCIA WILLIAMSON** are wrapping up their third year in the traditionally one-year post of Traveling Trainers. The dedicated, seasoned educators have trained thousands of people and have made millions of Leave No Trace impressions over the years.



invited the Traveling Trainers to an all-day assembly to teach students how to recreate responsibly. "The Leave No Trace Trainers are excellent! I am a middle school teacher in a small rural town in California...Their presentation was very meaningful for our students, as they are presently preparing to go camping for a week this spring. The skits and other presentations were excellent in teaching our students outdoor ethics. This is a wonderful program!" Mary Ann Morgan-Science Teacher

LOCATION: CLEMSON, SC
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED: 12
DATE: SEPTEMBER 27-28

LEAVE NO TRACE TRAINER COURSE
The Leave No Trace Trainer Courses allow participants the opportunity to learn Leave No Trace activities and teaching methods for use with groups they encounter while recreating. Participants will earn a Trainer certificate after successful completion. Students from Clemson University learned about how to dispose of waste properly when nature calls, among other skills.

LOCATION: ELLICOTT, MD
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED: 200
DATE: OCTOBER 11, 2003

MD GEOCACHING SOCIETY MEETING
Maryland Geocaching Society was established to educate and support its membership in pursuit of a fast growing

outdoor activity in this country. This was the Traveling Trainers very first opportunity to present Leave No Trace to geocachers. The basic idea is to have individuals and organizations set up caches all over the world and share the locations of these caches on the internet. GPS users can then use the location coordinates to find the caches. Once found, a cache may provide the visitor with a wide variety of rewards.

LOCATION: RED ROCKS, NV
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED: 250
DATE: OCTOBER 20-21, 2003

AMGA ANNUAL MEETING The American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA) is a non-profit partner of Leave No

Trace. The AMGA has weaved the Leave No Trace principles into their training and courses that are offered to professional mountain guides in three different disciplines: rock, alpine and ski mountaineering. In 2003, the Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers reached over 250 guides with Leave No Trace techniques to pass on to their clients when out in the field. During the Annual Meeting, mountain guides from across the US attended training, did workshops, and participated in the Guides Olympics. Can you hula hoop while coiling a rope?

LOCATION: BLACK ROCK DESERT, NV
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED: 800
DATE: OCTOBER 28-31, 2003

BURNING MAN The Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers were invited to share their expertise with nine, new Leave No Trace Master Educators, the Earth Guardians, in their mission to "educate, inform, inspire, and encourage citizens of Black Rock City to apply Leave No Trace Principles to life in their temporary desert home." How could we refuse? The Earth Guardians function as Burning Man's own Center for Outdoor Ethics. They have their own traveling trainers, the "Crusaders", who drive a motorized red pony waving a banner emblazoned with "L-N-T". The Earth Guardians' dedication and hard work have been major factors in reducing Burning Man's impact on the playa.

LOCATION: BRYSON CITY, NC
NO. OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED: 4,000
DATE: OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 2, 2003

NANTAHALA OUTDOOR CENTER (NOC) GUEST APPRECIATION FESTIVAL The swift currents of the Nantahala River have slowly carved an incredible gorge in the mountains of western North Carolina. Tucked away in a gorge lies the main campus of Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC). NOC offers a diverse range of river-based activities and services for families as well as avid adventure seekers. The Traveling Trainers provided attendees of this festival with river specific Leave No Trace information through workshops offered throughout the weekend.

This summary financial information is derived from the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics' audited financial statements, on which an independent public accounting firm expressed an unqualified opinion. Please contact the Center for Outdoor Ethics if you wish to obtain a copy of the complete audited financial statements.



PARTNER OF THE YEAR MAINE ISLAND TRAIL ASSOCIATION

THE MAINE ISLAND TRAIL ASSOCIATION HAS ADOPTED LEAVE NO TRACE AS THE FOCUS OF ITS EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR THE MAINE ISLANDS UNDER THEIR CARE. THEY HAVE CONDUCTED OUTREACH PRESENTATIONS, HOSTED THE TRAVELING TRAINERS, OFFERED LEAVE NO TRACE WORKSHOPS FOR STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, MEMBERS, AND OTHERS IN THE BOATING COMMUNITY AND POSTED LEAVE NO TRACE INFORMATION ON MANY OF THEIR CAMPING ISLANDS.

two thousand and three members

The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics relies on the generosity of you, the member, to carry out its mission and programs. The organization wishes to thank all of you for your incredible support and commitment to the Leave No Trace program. The following people made membership contributions of \$35 or more in 2003. Thank you.

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“There is a pleasure in the pathless woods;
There is a rapture on the lonely shore;
There is society where none intrudes,
By the deep sea, and music in its roar;
I love not man the less, but Nature more.”

—LORD BYRON

TECH TIPS

LEAVE NO WEEDS!

The number one reason for species extinction worldwide is habitat loss (generally due to development). The number two reason is the spread of invasive species, some of which are spread from place to place

by you and me, the outdoor enthusiasts. To



avoid spreading invasive, non-native and noxious species, empty, inspect and clean your tent, pack, boots and other equipment before and after trips to different areas. These easy precautions will help keep our collective recreational resources free from the devastating impacts of invasive species. For more information, check out

<http://www.invasivespecies.gov/> or <http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact.htm>

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

Sounds can sometimes seem amplified in the out-of-doors. Mountain bikes, for instance, can create noisy “chain slap” on extended descents. To avoid this, shift to a lower gear to take some of the slack out of the chain. Although there are times when making noise can be a good thing, such as when passing others on the trail or approaching blind corners, keep in mind that many people, including mountain bikers, seek solitude outside.



DO YOU HAVE ANY TECH TIPS?

Do you have ideas, tried-and-true techniques or lessons from the “school of hard knocks” that make it easier for you to Leave No Trace when you’re enjoying the outdoors? If so, please let us know (100 words or less). Send Tech Tips to ben@lnt.org.



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What would you do?

Is it O.K. to feed pigeons in Central Park, ducks on Lake Michigan or seagulls on California’s coastline?

please send responses {150 words or less} to susy@LNT.org



→ GIVE THE GIFT OF STOCK TO LEAVE NO TRACE! *find out more by calling 800.332.4100*