

## PRACTICING LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES

"Leave No Trace" is a set of principles to help us protect the outdoors and keep nature clean and beautiful for everyone. Practicing these principles means enjoying nature without leaving any impact, so plants, animals, and other people can enjoy it too.

### 1. Plan and Prepare

- **Why:** Prevent accidents and reduce environmental impact.
- **How:** Check weather, trails, and rules. Pack light and plan waste-free meals.

### 2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- **Why:** Protect plants and soil.
- **How:** Use marked trails and campsites. Avoid stepping on fragile areas.

### 3. Dispose of Waste Properly

- **Why:** Keep nature clean and safe.
- **How:** Pack out all trash, use bathrooms, or bury human waste 200 feet from water/trails.

### 4. Leave What You Find

- **Why:** Preserve nature and history.
- **How:** Don't pick plants or take souvenirs—leave everything as it is.

### 5. Minimize Campfire Impact

- **Why:** Prevent damage and forest fires.
- **How:** Use camp stoves or small fires in fire rings. Fully extinguish fires before leaving.

### 6. Respect Wildlife

- **Why:** Protect animals and yourself.
- **How:** Observe from a distance, don't feed them, and secure food/trash.

### 7. Be Considerate of Others

- **Why:** Enhance everyone's outdoor experience.
- **How:** Keep noise low, share trails, and yield to uphill hikers.