The Leave No Trace Seven Principles











PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE

- Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit, including local County and Park COVID-19 specific regulations.
- · Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
- Repackage food to minimize waste.
- Use a map and compass to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.
- Report any injured wildlife, resource damage, or illegal activities to Park Headquarters at 760-767-4037.



TRAVEL AND CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES

- Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel or sand.
- Protect riparian areas by camping at least 200 feet from dry lakes, streams and wetlands.
- Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.
- Avoid stepping on vegetation and sensitive desert environment.
- <u>In popular areas:</u>
 - Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites.
 - Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.
- In pristine areas:
 - Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails.
 - Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.



DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food and litter.
- Desert environment is particularly delicate and not suited for decomposition. For human waste, we encourage the use of WAG (waste alleviation gel) bags or other portable toilet options to keep the desert clean. WAG bags can be safely disposed of in regular trash.
- All waste, including hygiene products and toilet paper, must be carried out and disposed in trash bins at home or trash receptacles provided by the Park.



LEAVE WHAT

- Preserve the past, do not touch or disturb cultural and historic structures and artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.



MINIMIZE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS

- Illegal ground fires are prohibited. Campfires are allowed in camperprovided metal containers with bottom and sides, or in Park-provided metal fire rings in primitive campsites.
- Do not collect firewood or dried brush in the Park. Bring firewood from local County to lower risk of exposure to pests.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash. Put out campfires completely.
- Do not burn trash or dispose of trash in fire rings. Pack out ashes with you when using a fire pan to leave no trace.
- Keep fires small or consider foregoing a campfire to enjoy the dark skies in remote areas of our designated "International Dark Sky Park."



RESPECT WILDLIFE

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow, approach or otherwise harass wildlife.
- Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.
- Do not approach or attempt to move sick or injured wildlife. Please report any encounters to Park Staff.



BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER VISITORS

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
- Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.