



A Leave No Trace Awareness activity for Chapters

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Did you know?

- **Leave No Trace Canada** is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and inspiring responsible outdoor recreation through education, research and partnerships.
- **BCHBC** is an active member partner with LNT Canada.
- The **Practice** of Leave No Trace helps build awareness, appreciation and respect for our magnificent wildlands.

Something to Ponder:

So, how many of us have taken a pinecone or rock, gone off the trail to avoid a mud puddle, gone too close to wildlife and watch them scamper off, or tossed an apple core or orange peel into the bush because its “natural garbage”. Although this may seem inconsequential at the time it does have its impact and until we learn to reduce our collective impacts, the quality of our outdoor experiences and recreational resources come into risk. Until education catches up with common behavior and we all learn to leave the outdoors as unchanged as possible by our presence, at risk will be our continued access to wildlands as land managers take restrictive actions to protect the resources they are responsible for.

Leave No Trace isn't just a set of rules or regulations to be memorized or certain minimum impact skills to be practiced in every outdoor situation. First and foremost it is an attitude that eventually develops into an ethic; that is, a code of living or moral belief. It's about understanding, respecting and caring for wildlands. It's about becoming aware of the privilege of Wildland access and doing what we all need to do to preserve that privilege. It's about doing our part to protect our limited resources and our access to them, now and for the future.

A Leave No Trace Awareness Group Activity: Set the Steps

Requirements: Sheets of Paper and pens for each group of 3-4 people. A set of the 7 Principles of LNT

1. Have someone read out the “Something to Ponder” paragraphs. The group should have a short discussion on them.
2. Have everyone divide into small groups of 3-4. Provide each group with a pen and sheet of paper.
3. Give the groups 10 minutes to devise their own “Steps to Appreciating our Wildlands”
4. Each group has 5 minutes to share their ideas and why they chose them.
5. Tack up each group's paper.
6. Now put up or lay out the LNT Canada 7 principles and compare them to what was devised by the groups. Are the group's ideas similar, different, useful, better.....?