

## Just Leave It Be!

## WHAT YOU CAN DO...



Enjoy your find, but **leave it in place** exactly as you found it.



Mark the artifact's location on a map.



Report the information to the nearest Forest Service office.

- All artifacts found on public lands are protected by state and federal laws\*. It is illegal and unethical to collect artifacts on public lands.
- Artifacts include anything made or used by humans including arrowheads and flakes, pottery, basketry, rock art, bottles, coins, metal pieces, and even old cans.
- Collecting artifacts disrupts the archaeological record. What is MOST significant about an artifact is its placement or the structure and composition of a site. Once an artifact is moved, that information is lost forever.
- You may sketch or photograph artifacts, but never dig in an archaeological site or collect artifacts from the ground surface.

If you find an artifact, **leave it in place.** Do not bring it to a Forest Service office, and do not take it home.

## **Hoosier National Forest**

811 Constitution Ave., Bedford, IN 47421 www.fs.usda.gov/hoosier



\*Title 16 U.S.C. 470 EE Archaeological Resources Protection Act and 36 CFR 261.9

Thank you for your help in preserving America's past.