

You finish brushing your teeth and you need to spit out the toothpaste. Where should you spit the toothpaste?

- a) In the bushes near the lake.
- b) In a shallow hole.

If you chose

- a) Add a striped blue wedge—spitting it in the bushes leaves a white mess on the bushes and washes into the water.
- b) Add a solid blue wedge—spitting it in a hole allows the organisms in the soil to decompose it before it gets to the water and leaves no visual trace.

There's a big pile of dishes to wash. Where should you wash them?

- a) In the lake.
- b) 150 feet away from the lake.

If you chose

- a) Add a striped blue wedge—washing in the lake adds pollutants to the lake and harms the aquatic organisms in the lake.
- b) Add a solid blue wedge—washing away from the lake allows the plants and soil to absorb the soap and filter it before it reaches the water.

The last time your family went paddling, you were in a lake with Eurasian Milfoil (an invasive aquatic plant). Today, your family decides to paddle in a different lake. What should you do to stop the spread of the Eurasian Milfoil?

- a) Check your canoe for Eurasian Milfoil after paddling to your campsite.
- b) Clean the canoe before you leave home.

If you chose

- a) Add a striped blue wedge—failing to remove the milfoil before paddling contaminates other water and prevents other aquatic plants from growing.
- b) Add a solid blue wedge—cleaning your canoe adds no new or harmful species to the BWCAN.

Late in the afternoon you are thirsty. Your water bottle has some warm Tang remaining from the morning. What should you do with the remainder?

- a) Dump it in the lake and fill your bottle with cold water.
- b) Paddle to shore and dump it away from the shore.
- c) Drink it.

If you chose

- a) Add a striped blue wedge—dumping it in the water harms aquatic species.
- b) Add a solid blue wedge—dumping it on shore allows the soil to filter the Tang, but it harms some of the plants.
- c) Add a solid blue wedge and a bonus chip or flip over a striped blue wedge to reveal the solid colored side—drinking it leaves no impact.

After five days of camping, your hair is GREASY! Where should you wash it?

- a) In the lake, using only water.
- b) In the lake, using shampoo.
- c) 150 feet away from the lake and campsite, using water drawn in a bucket.

If you chose

- a) Add a solid blue wedge and a bonus chip or flip over a striped blue wedge to reveal the solid colored side—using only water does not cause algae growth.
- b) Add a striped blue wedge—using shampoo in the lake adds soap and phosphates to the lake which causes algae growth. Algae deplete the water of sunlight and oxygen, harming organisms that depend on the lake for survival.
- c) Add a solid blue wedge—washing and rinsing away from the lake and campsite helps the soil to filter the soap before it reaches the lake.

You are walking next to a creek when you feel the need to “go to the bathroom.”

Where should you relieve yourself?

- a) 5 feet off the trail.
- b) 150 feet off the trail.

If you chose

- a) Add a striped blue wedge—going close to trail leaves an odor, creates an aesthetic impact, and attracts animals which are drawn to the salts in the urine.
- b) Add a solid blue wedge—walking 150 feet away prevents urine from impacting the trail.

Eeww! There are leeches in the lake where you want to swim. What should you do?

- a) Choose a different place to swim.
- b) Spray insect repellent into the water to kill the leeches.

If you chose

- a) Add a solid blue wedge—leaving the leeches alone allows them to remain an important part of the ecosystem.
- b) Add a striped blue wedge—spraying insect repellent introduces a harmful chemical into the water and contaminates aquatic organisms.

After paddling all day you arrive at your campsite and notice a few soggy peanuts and raisins at the bottom of your canoe from the GORP you ate earlier. What should you do with the remainder?

- a) Pick it up and put it in the trash.
- b) Leave it in the canoe.

If you chose

- a) Add a solid blue wedge—picking it up is required as part of packing out all trash.
- b) Add a striped blue wedge—leaving it means that when you tip your canoe over, food scraps will fall and float in the water leaving a mess.

Your mom's fishing lure gets stuck on a rock off shore. What should she do?

- a) Cut the line and leave the lure.
- b) Wade in the water to retrieve the lure.

If you chose

- a) Add a striped blue wedge—leaving the lure results in trash and subjects a person or animal to injury.
- b) Add a solid blue wedge—picking up the lure leaves no trace.

You are boiling noodles for macaroni and cheese. What should you do with the hot water after you finish cooking?

- a) Dump it in the lake.
- b) Dump it in the woods away from the campsite.
- c) Let it cool and then dump it.

If you chose

- a) Add a striped blue wedge—dumping it in the lake releases any remaining food particles to float and contaminate the water.
- b) Add a solid blue wedge—dumping it in the woods allows the soil to filter it, but it harms some plants.
- c) Add a solid blue wedge and a bonus chip or flip over a striped blue wedge to reveal the solid colored side—letting it cool prevents harm to plants.



Only You Can Choose
Choice Card

Water



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