

Dispersed Camping



"All National Forest lands are open to camping unless otherwise posted. The advantages to this type of camping are many: peace, solitude, and adventure. There are, however, a few 'drawbacks'. You'll need to have a fire permit, bring your own water or purify water from lakes, streams, or springs. Be sure to make your camp at least 100 feet from all water sources. Since there are no toilet facilities, please dig a hole at least six inches deep for disposal of your human waste." - **USDA Forest Service**

LEAVE NO TRACE

Is all about respect for nature. If campers would just leave their campsites the way they found them (assuming it was clean to begin with), then we will all be doing our share to promote camping as it should be. Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit. Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies. Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent. In pristine areas

PACK IT IN PACK IT OUT

Another way of saying "leave no trace." If you are a backcountry camper, this is particularly important because there are no dumpsters in the backcountry. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.

GREY WATER

Is old dishwater, which should not be dumped just anywhere. To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 200 feet away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater

In the backcountry be sure to dump gray water away from any fresh water sources and use biodegradable soap. Campgrounds usually have designated areas for dumping gray water.

MINIMIZE CAMPFIRES

Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, don't dump your ashes on the ground. Dump them in the campfire ring and make sure to extinguish with water using the drown, stir and feel method, or pack them out. Campfires can cause lasting impacts. Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires. Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.

TRASH

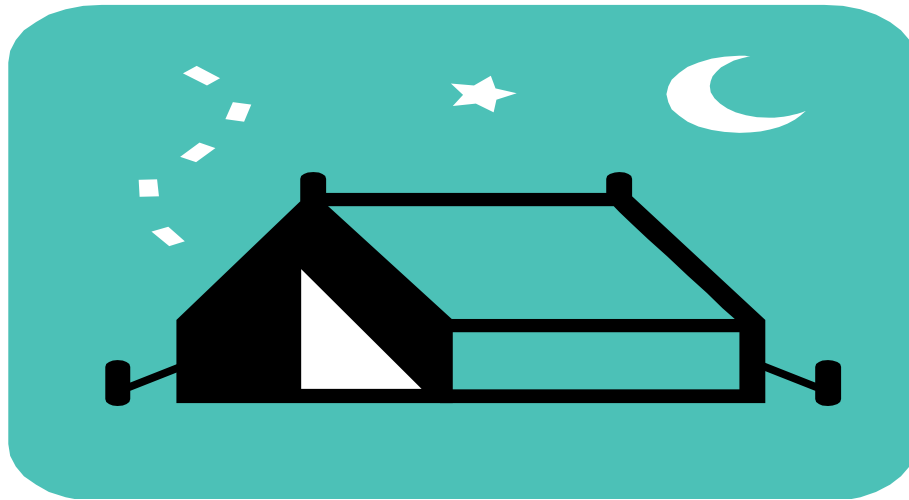
Be sure to take along some plastic garbage bags to collect trash. The last thing you should do before leaving the camp is to make one more round and pick up any trash and pack it out.

RESPECT WILDLIFE

Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them. 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. Control pets at all times, or leave them at home. Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.

Leave What You Find

Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch, cultural or 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.



Remember the basic rule: Leave No Trace!

For areas where dispersed camping is allowed, you need to obtain a California Campfire Permit for the use of any open flame (including gas stoves, lanterns, wood fires, charcoal fires or smoking). These permits can be obtained at no cost from any Inyo National Forest Ranger Station or Visitor Center. Open flame of any kind may be restricted during times of high fire danger. **Check with the local Forest Service office for current restrictions. White Mtn. Ranger Station (760) 873-2500.**



White Mtn. Ranger Station