

7 Principles of Leave No Trace

Falling in love with the forest isn't hard, it's a beautiful place! But being a responsible visitor should be the priority to preserve the wonder and beauty of the MBS. Here are the 7 principles to practice while you're in the forest:

1



Plan and Prepare

When outdoor visitors plan ahead and prepare, it helps to accomplish trip goals safely and enjoyably while simultaneously minimizing damage to the land.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

The goal of travel outdoors is to move through natural areas while avoiding damage to the land, foliage, or waterways. Travel damage occurs when surface vegetation or communities of organisms are trampled beyond recovery.

2



3



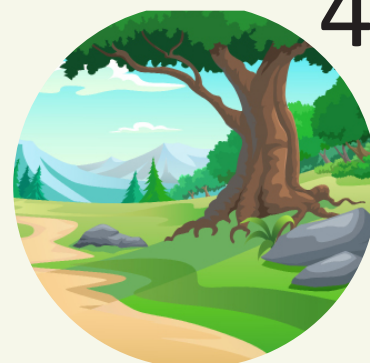
Dispose of Waste Properly

The waste humans create while enjoying outdoor spaces can have severe impacts if not disposed of properly. It is crucial to anticipate the types of waste you will need to dispose of and know the proper techniques for disposing of each type of waste in the area you are visiting.

Leave What You Find

The items we find in nature have a role to play, either in the ecosystem or the story of the landscape. Leaving what we find in place helps to preserve both. Allow others a sense of discovery by leaving rocks, plants, archaeology artifacts, and other objects of interest as you find them.

4



5



Minimize Campfire Impacts

Once necessary for food and warmth, campfires are steeped in history and tradition. Some people would not think of camping with a campfire. Yet, the natural appearance of many areas has been degraded by overuse of fires and increasing demand for firewood.

Respect Wildlife

When you are in an outdoor space, you are in the natural habitat of many wild animals and should work to minimize your impact on them. Human impacts on wildlife can result in negative human-wildlife interactions, aggressive animals, a decline in the ecosystem's health, and relocated or euthanized animals.

6



7



Be Considerate of Other Visitors

One of the most important components of outdoor ethics is to maintain courtesy toward others. It helps everyone enjoy their outdoor experience. Excessive noise, uncontrolled pets, and damaged surroundings detract from the natural appeal of the outdoors.