



## Leave No Trace Awareness Award Worksheet

### What is the "Leave No Trace" award all about?:

Leave No Trace is a plan that helps people to be more concerned about their environment and to help them protect it for future generations. Leave No Trace applies in a backyard or local parks (frontcountry) as much as it does in the wilderness (backcountry).

We should practice Leave No Trace in our attitude and actions - wherever we go. Understanding nature strengthens our respect toward the environment. One person with thoughtless behavior or one shortcut on a trail can spoil the outdoor experience for others.

Help protect the environment by remembering that while you are there, you are a visitor. When you visit the outdoors, take special care of the area. Leave everything just as you find it. Hiking and camping without a trace are signs of a considerate outdoorsman who cares for the environment.

### The Six No Trace Guidelines for Cub Scouts:

#### **Plan Ahead**

Watch for hazards and follow all the rules of the park or outdoor facility. Remember proper clothing, sunscreen, hats, first aid kits, and plenty of drinking water. Use the buddy system. Make sure you carry your family's name, phone number and address.

#### **Stick to Trails**

Stay on marked trails whenever possible. Short-cutting trails causes the soil to wear away or to be packed, which eventually kills trees and other vegetations. Trampled wildflowers and vegetations take years to recover.

#### **Manage Your Pet**

Managing your pet will keep people, dogs, livestock and wildlife from feeling threatened. Make sure your pet is on a leash or controlled at all times. Do not let your pet approach or chase wildlife. When animals are chased or disturbed, they change eating patterns and use more energy that may result in poor health or death. Take care of your pet's waste. Take a small shovel or scoop and pick-up bag to pickup your pet's waste.

#### **Leave What You Find**

When visiting any outdoor areas, try to leave it the same as you find it. The less impact we each make, the longer we will enjoy what we have. Even picking flowers denies others the opportunity to see them and reduces seeds, which means fewer plants next year.

#### **Respect Other Visitors**

Expect to meet other visitors. Be courteous and make room for others. Control your speed when biking or running. Pass with care and let others know before you pass. Avoid disturbing others by making noise or playing loud music. Respect "No Trespassing" signs.

#### **Trash Your Trash**

Make sure all trash is put in a bag or trash receptacle. Trash is unsightly and ruins everyone's outdoor experience. Your trash can kill wildlife. Even materials such as orange peels, apple cores and food scraps take years to break down and may attract unwanted pests that could become a problem.