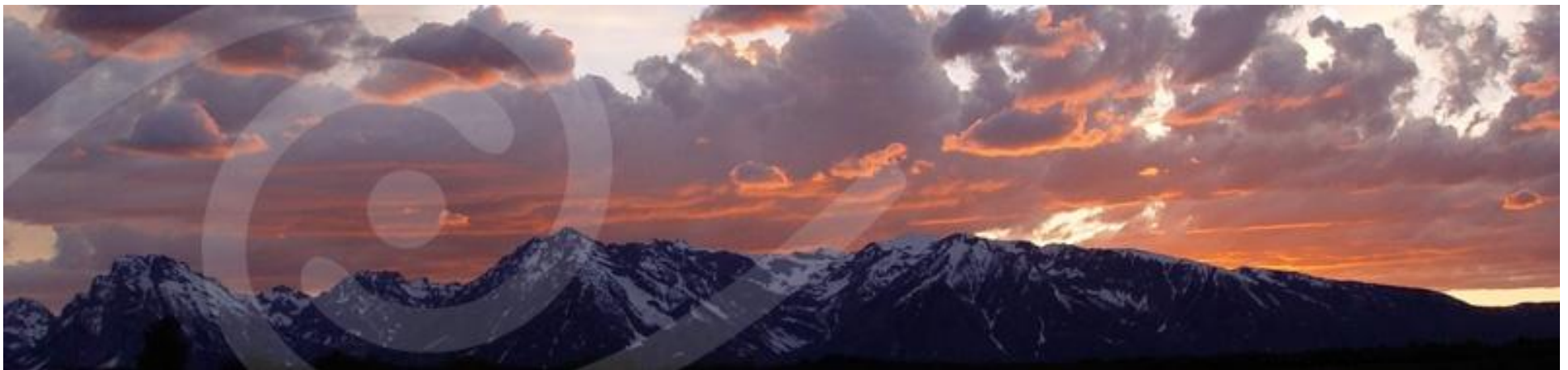


# Flip book for Leave No Trace Educational Model & Educators session of Leave No Trace Trainer course

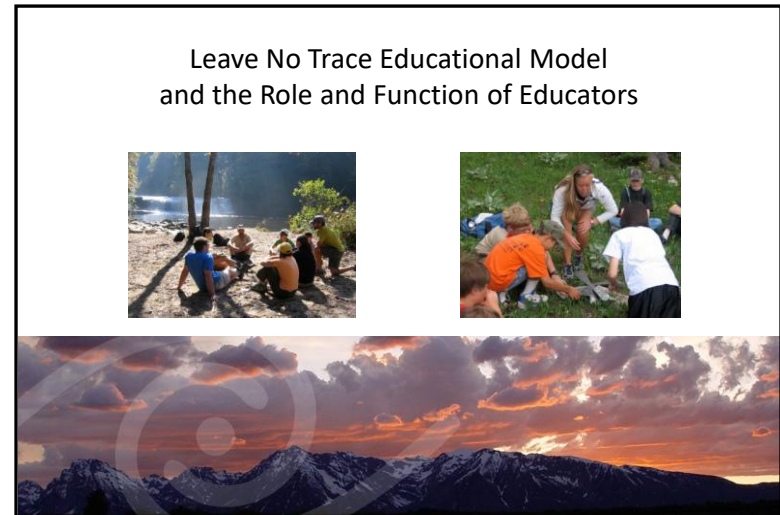
- This slide show has two versions: a long one for the Master Educator course and a short one for the Trainer course. This is the Trainer Course version.
- See pages 13 & 14 of BSA Leave No Trace Trainer Course manual
- Session length: 30 minutes
- Incorporates Jeff Marion power point
- Handout: “Teaching Leave No Trace,” BSA #21-117

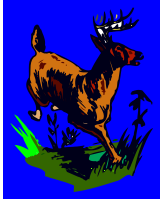
# Leave No Trace Educational Model and the Role and Function of Educators



This slide show has two versions, a long one for the Master Educator course and a short one for the Trainer course.

This is the Trainer Course version.






# Presentation Objectives

- Review how education can lead to the adoption of low impact behaviors.
- Describe the Leave No Trace educational training model.
- Describe the role and function of the Leave No Trace Review and Research Network.
- Describe some of the core Leave No Trace educational programs.




*Describe the presentation objectives.*


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# *Leave No Trace: Organizational Focus*

***Mission:*** To protect the outdoors by teaching and inspiring people to enjoy it responsibly.

## ***Educate, Connect, Protect:***

- We *educate* people about minimum impact skills and responsible outdoor recreation.
- We *connect* people to their natural world so that they care about its future health.
- We *protect* ecosystems by creating lifelong outdoor stewards.



This is a concise statement of the core philosophy of the national Leave No Trace program.

Through **education** and ethics we **connect** visitors to nature, instilling a sense of **protection** and stewardship.

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## A Classification of Visitor Actions that Cause Impact

- Careless – picking wildflowers
- Unskilled – firewood gathering & campfire building
- Uninformed – feeding wildlife
- Unavoidable – trampling along a trail
- Illegal – theft of cultural artifacts

Which actions can education address?



Education can be effective because many recreation impacts are the result of careless, unskilled, or uninformed behaviors. Such impacts can often be entirely avoided.

Unavoidable impacts can be minimized if visitor practice low impact behaviors (e.g., walking single file, setting up a tent the most durable surface available).

Education generally has little effect on illegal activities, though it can heighten the “shame” factor! For example, some visitors who stole petrified wood from Petrified Forest National Park have mailed it back to the park to clear their conscience!

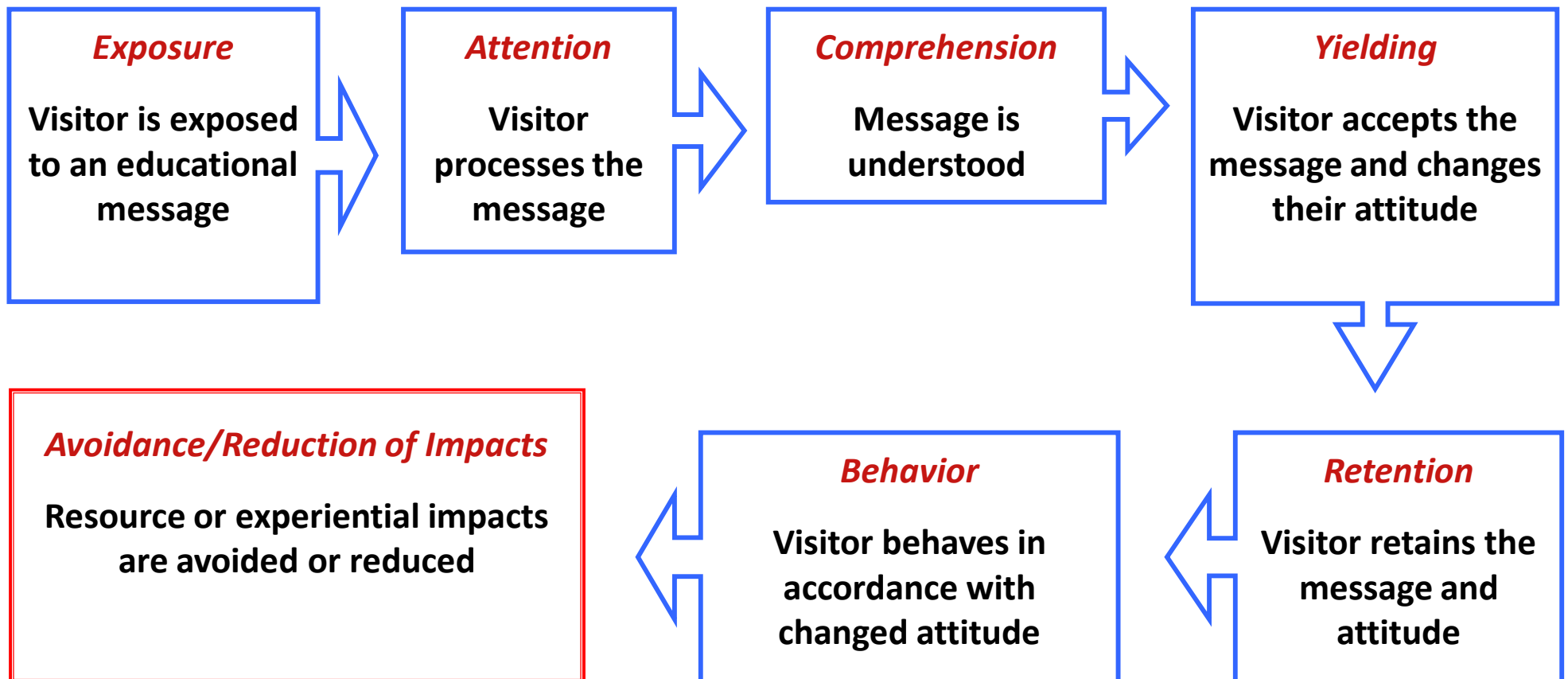
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# McGuire's Model of Persuasion

The educational process for altering behavior



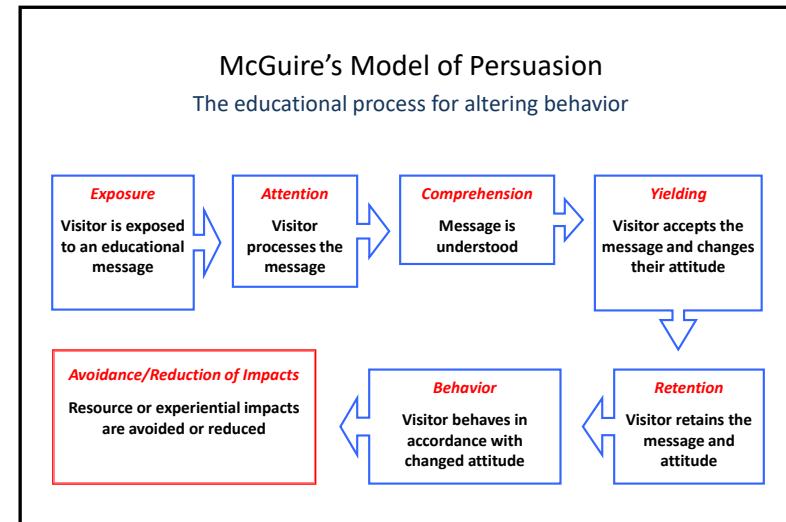
William J. McGuire was a social psychologist, best known for research in the psychology of persuasion.

This is a social science theoretical model for how education can affect a change in human behavior.

Effective educators must be aware of these steps in process of behavior change – omission of any step can result in visitors not changing their behavior.

For example, a visitor might learn but not “accept” a message. They will know the low impact practice but not apply it. In our courses we always need to ***provide compelling arguments for why it is important that visitors apply low impact practices.***

e.g., one new campsite or fire site isn’t the problem – 5000 of them is a huge problem!



# *Leave No Trace*: Core Values

- **Leave No Trace is founded on outdoor ethics whereby a sense of stewardship is gained through understanding and connecting with the natural world.**
- **Practicing the *Leave No Trace* principles is the most relevant and effective long-term solution to maintaining the beauty, health of, and access to natural lands.**
- **Leave No Trace is science-based and builds ethical, pragmatic approaches to resource protection.**



Learning and practicing Leave No Trace practices and ethics is the most optimal long-term solution for us to avoid “Loving our parks to death.”

Leave No Trace practices are based on the best available science and expertise from land managers and outdoor educators.

Half Dome in Yosemite National Park?

### *Leave No Trace: Core Values*

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# Leave No Trace Research

**Social science research tells us about visitor perceptions and behaviors.**



**Recreation Ecology research tells us about recreation impacts and how they can be minimized by managers and visitors.**

From the very beginning, the Leave No Trace program has sought to ensure that its recommended low impact practices are based on the best available and most applicable science.

Scientists analyze and model the impact process to develop an understanding of the relative contributions of various use-related, environmental, and managerial factors. This knowledge has been used to develop the most effective low impact practices possible.

### Leave No Trace Research

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## Education Review Committee (pre 2015)

- The Education Review Committee (ERC) was a standing committee of the Leave No Trace Board of Directors.
- The ERC developed, reviewed and revised educational materials, training programs and curriculum.
- The ERC ensured that all educational materials were consistently and effectively presented, and were based on the best research and outdoor experience.





The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics (The Center) created and charged the Educational Review Committee (ERC) as the group responsible for consulting scientists, land managers, and outdoor educators in the development of Leave No Trace practices, courses, and educational materials.

ERC members bring a diversity of perspectives and expertise to provide a dynamic “peer-review” process that incorporates new research and outdoor practices over time.

The ERC recognizes that different recreational activities and environmental settings require different Leave No Trace practices.

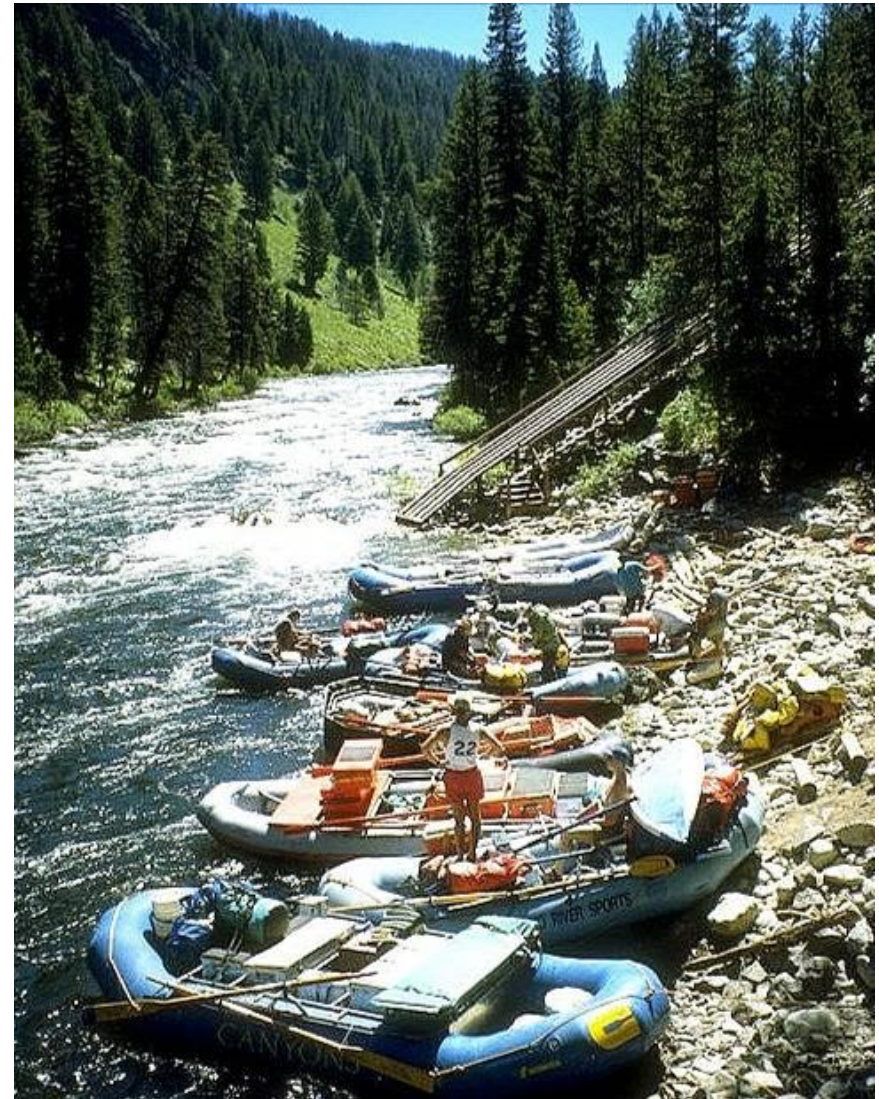
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# Review and Research Network

- The Education Review Committee no longer exists – it is now a pool of experts called the **Review and Research Network**
- The Leave No Trace Center gathers a small group of topic specialists for reviewing new materials.
- Each expert in the RRN pool may be called upon a couple times a year for different topic groups, and outside experts are also tapped.



In 2015, the Center changed the structure to a pool of experts called the Review and Research Network.

The function is much the same, but this more flexible structure allows them to select the appropriate specialists for reviewing new materials.

The RRN provides a peer-review process for accuracy and consistency for both new educational material and for deviations or revisions of previously approved low impact practices or messaging.

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# Leave No Trace Training Model



## Tiered Training Structure

### *Master Educator Course*

An intensive 5-day field-oriented course offered by one of the Center's approved course providers.

### *Trainer Course*

A 2-day field course taught by Master Educators.

### *Awareness Workshop*

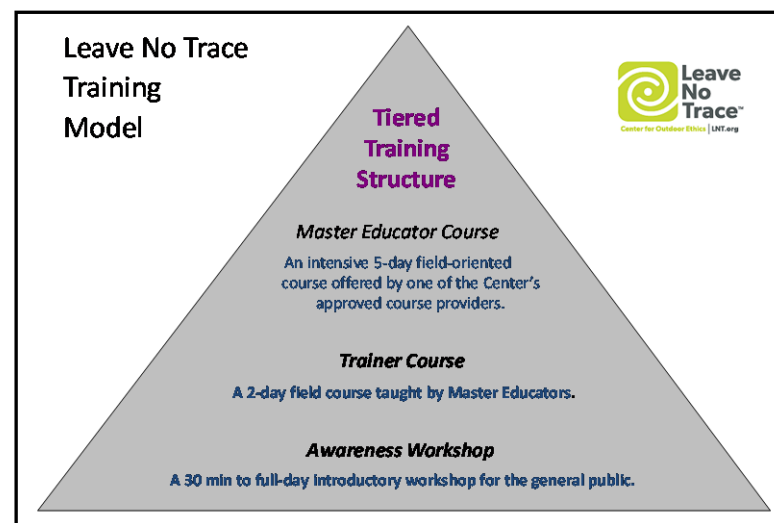
A 30 min to full-day introductory workshop for the general public.

To ensure the quality and consistency of its educational program, the Center and ERC developed a pyramidal three-tiered training model.

An intensive experiential 5-day course taught only by Center-approved providers trains Master Educators.

Master Educators (ME's) are then permitted to teach the two-day Trainer course.

ME's and Trainers are then permitted to teach Awareness Workshops to "end-users" - the millions of recreationists who visit our protected lands.



# BSA Leave No Trace Training Model



## Tiered Training Structure

### ***Master Educator Course***

An intensive 5-day field-oriented course.  
Hosted by Council or HA Base.

### ***Trainer Course***

A 2-day field course taught by Master Educators.  
Participants must be at least 14 yrs old

### ***BSA Leave No Trace 101***

A 3-4 hour introductory workshop taught by Trainer or ME.

***(Awareness Session: Shorter or partial Leave No Trace training.)***

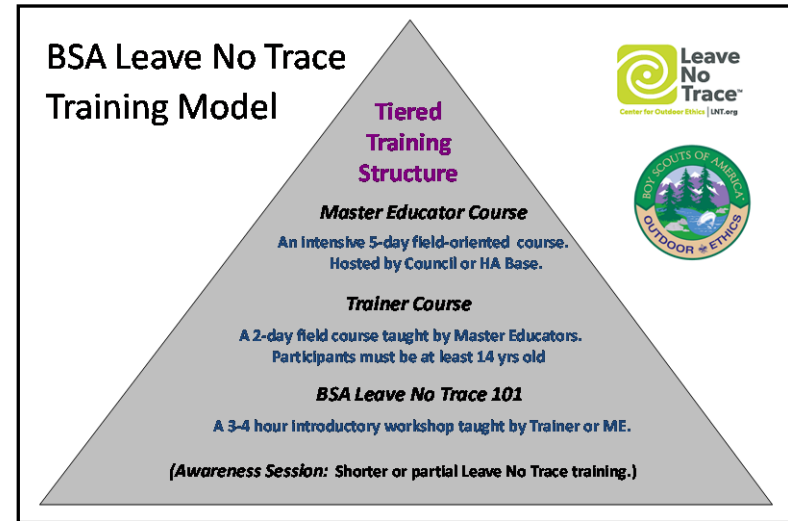


The BSA follows a similar tiered training structure.

Master Educator courses are hosted by either a local Scout Council or a High Adventure Base

Like the Leave No Trace training model, the trainer course is a 2 day field course taught by Leave No Trace Master Educators with the additional requirement for minimum age.

In addition Awareness workshops, there is the BSA Leave No Trace 101 course, a half day course taught by either Trainers or Master Educators.



# 2020-2024 Leave No Trace Master Educator Course Providers





Organizations must apply and receive approval from the Center to teach the 5-day Leave No Trace Master Educator Course.

This requirement provides quality control and consistency of educational messages throughout the national Leave No Trace program.

- Several dozen Master Educator courses are offered across the country each year.
- By far, the largest provider of Leave No Trace Master Educator courses is BSA

(9 providers at present)



# Strategic Priorities

- Leave No Trace for Every Kid
  - Experiential Education Curriculum
  - Bigfoot's Playbook
  - Program Accreditation
- Leave No Trace in Every Park
  - Citizen Science – Inventory of Parks



In addition to the Center's education, training and outreach, the organization has a current focus on key areas in order to reach new and emerging audiences with Leave No Trace skills and ethics:

### Strategic Priorities

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# Frontcountry Program

- Frontcountry is defined as outdoor areas that are easily accessible by vehicle and mostly visited by day users.
- The Center is working with partners across the U.S. to develop frontcountry programs that help protect these resources and reach the increasing number of individuals recreating in these areas.



Leave No Trace has expanded over the years from a focus on wilderness and backcountry to also include frontcountry settings: those areas that are easily accessible by vehicle and mostly visited by day users.

The frontcountry program has added the necessary flexibility to address many new types of impacts with new or modified low impact practices and educational messages.

**Frontcountry Program**

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- The Center is working with partners across the U.S. to develop frontcountry programs that help protect these resources and reach the increasing number of individuals recreating in these areas.





# Frontcountry Impacts

- Pet waste & management
- Crowding & user group conflicts
- Trespassing, off-trail hiking
- Trash, graffiti, vandalism



Review how frontcountry settings and impacts are unique and different from wilderness/backcountry settings.

Frontcountry visitation substantially exceeds wilderness and backcountry visitation and includes many activities that are unique to frontcountry settings. Review these.

Which of the front country impacts are preventable? And which are unavoidable?

Relevancy in frontcountry environments requires the development of new or modified low impact practices and messaging – hence the need for a “frontcountry” program.

Frontcountry Impacts

- Pet waste & management
- Crowding & user group conflicts
- Trespassing, off-trail hiking
- Trash, graffiti, vandalism



The complex block contains a list of four impacts: 'Pet waste & management', 'Crowding & user group conflicts', 'Trespassing, off-trail hiking', and 'Trash, graffiti, vandalism'. It also features four images: a picnic table with a tent and trash, a person with a dog near a stream, a trail sign for hikers and bikers, and a 'TRAIL COURTESY' sign with icons for a bicycle, hiker, and dog.

# *Leave No Trace* Center for Outdoor Ethics: Role and Function

- **Traveling Trainer program - Three mobile teams that teach Leave No Trace and provide grassroots support to build education and outreach programs at the local level.**
- **PEAK program - Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids – REI partnership that developed PEAK packs of educational modules for ages 6-12 and teens.**
- **International programs - branch organizations in Australia, Canada, Ireland, with assistance to numerous other countries.**



The Center has also partnered with commercial companies, such as Subaru, who provide critical financial support to major educational programs.

The Subaru Travelling Trainer program puts three teams of Center staff on the road each year to provide Leave No Trace outreach and education to many thousand people annually.

Recreation Equipment Incorporated (REI) partners with the Center to develop educational packages focused on youth aged 6-12 and teens. (PEAK) These educational materials can be borrowed, obtained through grants, or purchased in support of educational programs.

The Center receives and responds to requests for assistance from other countries and international organizations.

*Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics: Role and Function*

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# State Advocate Program

- More than 45 states have Leave No Trace State Advocates.
- These volunteers coordinate and conduct training, outreach and education for the public.



- **Advocates receive training, materials and financial support from the Center.**
- **Tens of thousands are reached annually through the State Advocate program.**

The Center has greatly expanded grass-roots support for the national Leave No Trace program through development of a State Advocates program.

Encourage your course participants to check out their state LNT website and learn who their State Coordinator is. Their state website also lists important information on training courses Master Educators who can assist with trainings, and other local partners.

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# BSA Council Outdoor Ethics Advocates

- **Serves as the local council's point person for facilitating Leave No Trace training and ethics for youth and adults.**
- **Coordinates with council committees (Training, Camping, Conservation, Program).**
- **Responsibilities: Training (developing instructor corp, organizing courses), Recruiting (youth/adults for courses), Program Promotion (lead promotional efforts), Reporting (to Council and National).**

The Boy Scouts of America have similarly developed a Council Outdoor Ethics Advocate position.

Discuss the responsibilities of this individual and encourage course participants to seek out and assist this individual.

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