

BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER VISITORS

Beach Ball

Purpose:

Help participants understand the importance of being considerate of other visitors.

Supplies:

One blow up beach ball with questions related to this principle. Write the questions listed below on the ball. Write them going in different directions so it is easy to determine where a question starts and ends. Be sure to include the number so you can refer to the answer sheet if necessary. Up to 60 questions will fit on a 24" beach ball. Develop more questions that are more site specific for your area.

Directions:

"I am going to toss this ball out to you. I would like you to keep batting it around until I say STOP. The one holding the ball will tell me the number and read the question by their right thumb. You will then answer the question and we will discuss it. Okay, here we go.

Toss the ball out to the participants. Stop it about every 4 to 5 hits and go through the question and answer process. You have the answers to the questions listed below for reference.

1: What does "Be Considerate to Other Visitors" mean to you?

Obtain several opinions.

2: Why should we be considerate to other visitors?

So we don't negatively impact their experience.

3: Do hikers yield the right of way to horses?

Yes..

4: Do horses yield the right of way to mountain bikes?

No.

5: Do mountain bikes yield the right of way to hikers?

Yes.

6: Do hikers going up or hikers going downhill have the right of way?

Hikers going uphill.

7: Where do we take our breaks when on a trail?

Try to find a durable surface where you can get off the trail far enough not to disturb others on the trail.

8: Should you step uphill from the trail or downhill when you encounter pack stock? Why?

Downhill. You appear smaller to the animals and are less likely to scare them.

9: When we encounter horses should we try to be still or talk quietly? Why?

We should talk quietly with the riders so the horses are not frightened if we do make a movement or noise.

10. How far should we camp from trails and other campers? Why?
200 feet. So we don't intrude on the solitude of other visitors.
- 11: Is it okay to be noisy when in the outdoors? Why?
Not generally. Our noise intrudes on the solitude of other visitors.
- 12: What colors are the best to use when outdoors? Why?
Earth tones so we are harder to see. We are not as intrusive to other visitors.
- 13: Should you leave gates open or closed?
Leave them how you found them.
- 14: How should you greet others when you encounter them?
Be friendly and smile.
- 15: Is it usually better to leave your pets at home or take them with you?
It is usually better to leave them at home. Most areas don't allow pets to run free and they may frighten other visitors.
- 16: Should you leave radios and other electronic gear home? Why?
It is okay if you have headphones but if you don't leave them at home so you don't disturb the other visitors.
- 17: Can you cross private property anytime you want?
No. You should never be on someone's property unless you obtained permission before your trip..
- 18: Have you ever experienced other visitors who were being noisy and disturbed what you were doing?
How did that make you feel?
Encourage several others to share their experience.
- 19: Does your rowdy behavior have any impact on other visitors? Why?
Yes. It ruins their experience since most people go outdoors to get away from other people and their noise.
- 20: What can you do to show you respect other visitors when you encounter them on the trail?
Be friendly and smile as you step off the trail and let them pass by.