

DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY

Beach Ball

Purpose:

Help participants understand the importance of disposing of waste properly.

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 "Pack it In, Pack it Out" mean to your?

Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food and litter.

2: How far from water, camp and trails should you dig a cathole?

A minimum of 200 feet.

3: What is a cathole used for?

Disposing of solid human waste.

4: What should you do with used toilet paper and hygiene products?

Mix the toilet paper with the feces and dirt in the bottom of the cathole. Double bag the hygiene products and pack them out.

5: How close to water supplies can you clean yourself and dishes?

200 feet.

6: How do you dispose of used dishwater?

Strain the water with nylon pantyhose or a fish tank net and broadcast the water over a large area..

7: How far from your campsite should you broadcast dishwater?

At least 200 feet.

8: Is it a good idea to burn food packaging in your fire? Why?

No. It takes more fuel to burn your trash and the embers tend to blow around in the air and could start a fire.

- 9: What kind of soap do you use when recreating outdoors?
Biodegradable.
10. What should you do with extra food you have cooked when camping? Why?
Pack it out. If you bury it the animals dig it up and it is almost impossible to burn all of it without leaving an impact that attracts animals.
- 11: What is the easiest way to reduce leftover food while camping?
Repackage it at home before you leave so you only have what you will really need.
- 12: Is it okay to feed leftover food to wild critters? Why?
No. Feeding wildlife will habituate them and cause them to become a nuisance animal and in many instances can cause a premature death from poor nutrition and from them abandoning their own preparation for changing seasons.
- 13: What size do you dig a cathole in the desert?
4 to 6 inches deep and 4 to 6 inches in diameter.
- 14: What size do you dig a cathole in ground with good topsoil?
6 to 8 inches deep and 4 to 6 inches in diameter..
- 15: Where is the best place to locate a cathole in the desert?
Use south facing slopes and ridge tops that catch the sun's heat which kills pathogens in the waste.
- 16: Why are catholes in the desert and topsoil different depths?
There are no microbes in desert soil because of the heat. There are microbes in mountain soil that will kill pathogens when disposed of properly.
- 17: How should you urinate when bathroom facilities are not available?
Males should write their name while urinating. Females should find a durable surface to urinate on. Both practices minimize damage to plants by animals that are attracted to the salts in urine .
- 18: Does it matter what kind of toilet paper you use?
Yes. Use only plain, white, non-perfumed brands as sparingly as possible.
- 19: Why is human food bad for wildlife?
Often wildlife are harmed by the packaging for the food. Most human foods are not easily digested by wildlife which leads them to be malnourished and lead to a premature death .
- 20: What happens to tin foil that is tossed in a fire?
There is always some of the foil that is not burned is usually left in the fire pit which the next campers have to clean out.