

OUTDOOR ETHICS & CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE
National Council, Boy Scouts of America

MINIMUM ELEMENTS FOR
BSA LEAVE NO TRACE TRAINING CONTINUUM

This guide outlines the minimum elements for conducting each of the levels of Leave No Trace training in the Boy Scouts of America program:

- BSA Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor course
- BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor course
- BSA Leave No Trace Basics
- Leave No Trace Workshop

BSA-sponsored Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor Course

The Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor course prepares individuals to become Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructors who will train Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructors and others in the presentation of the Leave No Trace Seven Principles and outdoor ethics through Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor courses, BSA Leave No Trace Basics courses, and Leave No Trace Workshops. The Leave No Trace Training Guidelines and the BSA's Agreement establish certain minimum requirements for these courses. This document summarizes the requirements for leading a BSA-sponsored Level 2 Instructor course:

Sponsor:

- Course must be sponsored by a BSA entity (National Council or local council) and approved by the National Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Subcommittee.

Instructor credentials:

- A BSA Leave No Trace Level 3 Instructor who is a nationally-approved lead instructor and a nationally-approved Level 2 or 3 Co-Instructor.

Course length:

- Minimum of five days and five nights of instructional time, including three nights in the field.

Course syllabus:

- Leave No Trace, *Master Educator (Level 2 Instructor) Handbook*
- BSA, *Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course Manual*
- BSA, *BSA Outdoor Ethics Supplement*

Eligible participants:

- Any registered Scout or Scouter 18 years of age or older

Participants receive:

- Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor certification
- BSA Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor certificate
- BSA Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor course training card
- 1-year membership to Leave No Trace
- *BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course Manual* and *BSA Leave No Trace Basics Course Guide*.

BSA-sponsored Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course

The Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor course prepares individuals to become Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructors who will train individuals and groups in Leave No Trace Seven Principles and outdoor ethics through Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor courses, BSA Leave No Trace Basics courses, and Leave No Trace workshops. Leave No Trace's *Training Guidelines* and the BSA / Leave No Trace Agreement establish certain minimum requirements for these courses. This document summarizes the requirements for leading a BSA-sponsored Level 1 Instructor course:

Sponsor:

- Course must be sponsored and approved by an appropriate BSA entity (National Council, local council, local council committee, district committee or Council Outdoor Ethics Advocate).

Instructor credentials:

- A Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor must serve as the lead instructor; an experienced Level 1 Instructor or a Level 2 Instructor may serve as the co-instructor. Other Level 1 Instructors may be used to co-instruct or assist in the training, particularly for larger groups.

Course length:

- Minimum of 16 hours of instructional time. Overnight camping in an outdoor environment is strongly recommended.

Course elements:

- See the current *BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course Manual* for details on the required and optional course elements.

Course syllabus:

- BSA, *BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course Manual*

Eligible participants:

- Any registered BSA member **18 years of age or older**

Participants receive:

- Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor certification
- Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor certificate
- BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor card

BSA Leave No Trace Basics

The BSA Leave No Trace Basics (formerly 101) course trains individuals and groups in the Leave No Trace Seven Principles and skills. The course aims to generate a general awareness of Leave No Trace Seven Principles and to impart several practical skills enabling participants to make ethical decisions in the outdoors. This document summarizes the requirements for leading a BSA-recognized Leave No Trace Basics course:

Instructor credentials:

- Leave No Trace Level 1 or 2 Instructor

Course length:

- Three hours or more

Course minimum elements:

- See the current *BSA Leave No Trace Basics Course Guide* for details on the required course elements.

Course syllabus:

- BSA, *BSA Leave No Trace Basics Course Guide*

Eligible participants:

- Any one

Participants receive:

- Leave No Trace Basics Card

Leave No Trace Workshop

Within scouting, a Leave No Trace Workshop may be the best choice when there isn't adequate time to teach the full Leave No Trace Basics course. Leave No Trace's *Workshop Guidelines* define the instructor requirements and core components which must be included in the Leave No Trace Workshop. The Workshop introduces the principles of Leave No Trace, and emphasizes skills and techniques essential to Leave No Trace minimum impact outdoor ethics and education. The recognition for completion of the Leave No Trace Workshop is a certificate available from Leave No Trace (if the course is led by a currently certified Level 1 or 2 Instructor), and there is no BSA-specific recognition for the workshop.

Other Leave No Trace instruction or activities

Within scouting, there are also many opportunities for shorter Leave No Trace instruction and activities which don't meet all the requirements of a Workshop. These can be fun and valuable learning experiences, but there is no official recognition for these events.