

Flip Book for the Leave No Trace  
section of the Outdoor Ethics  
session of IOLS

See pages 33 – 36 of IOLS  
syllabus August 2018



# Outdoor Ethics

10LS

Time allotted: 30 minutes

Props:

- Outdoor Ethics Guide handbook BSA 510-047

Handouts:

- Leave No Trace tan “outdoor ethics” reference card (hang tag)
- Leave No Trace Group Use brochure.
- The Outdoor Ethics Awareness and Action Awards Program brochure #430-063
- Single serving granola bars

Activities (time permitting):

- No two-piece trash
- Trash timeline
- Question Ball



## Outdoor Ethics

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# Introduction

## Introduction

What is Outdoor Ethics?

Collectively, it's the ways that we use to instill a culture of caring for the outdoor places that we use and cherish. As more people use parks and recreational facilities, this culture of stewardship becomes even more important. Outdoor activities are a key part of the Scouting program. Thus, Scouts are one of the largest organized users of our wilderness resources.

Outdoor Ethics is one of Scouting's Values, along with citizenship and leadership.

Like other things in Scouting, it has evolved over the years. In the past, we may have referred to it as conservation, or similar terms. Today, we call it "outdoor ethics."



## Introduction

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# Need for Outdoor Ethics in Scouting

## The Need for Outdoor Ethics in Scouting

Plain speaking:

- Usage of our public lands is continually increasing.
- Scouting is an outdoor program. Thus, Scouts are one of the largest users of our public lands.
- Many of the things we did in the past probably made a large impact that is no longer acceptable.
- Scouts, and other users, need to improve if we are going to maintain the integrity and character of our outdoors for all living things.
- Outdoor Ethics/Leave No Trace provides a method for doing this. It all begins with us.



### Need for Outdoor Ethics in Scouting

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# The Challenge of Outdoor Ethics

- **Prevent** those impacts that we can
- **Minimize** those impacts that we can not
- **Preserve** the quality of outdoor resources and recreational experience



**Outdoor ethics** recognizes that whenever we go into the outdoors, there are effects, or impacts. The challenge is to:

- Prevent those impacts that you can, such as trash
- Minimize the impacts that you cannot prevent, such as wear and tear on an established trail.
- Preserve the quality of outdoor resources and recreational experience. What do we mean with this? Consider campfires. Campfires continue to have a huge impact on the wilderness, and there are ways to reduce the impact. Yet, it's integral to our outdoor recreational experience.



## The Challenge of Outdoor Ethics

- Prevent those impacts that we can
- Minimize those impacts that we can not
- Preserve the quality of outdoor resources and recreational experience

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# Outdoor Ethics in the BSA

- The learning and practice starts as a Cub Scouts with Leave No Trace requirements.
- It continues with BSA Scouts.

**Outdoor ethics** is an attitude that is practiced and reinforced throughout this training, as it is throughout the Scouting program.

Analogous to First Aid:

- Rank requirements to learn and practice skills
- Applicable merit badges have an Outdoor Ethics/Leave No Trace component.

Outdoor Ethics has been a part of Scouting since its founding.

Baden Powell is quoted as: “On breaking camp, leave two things behind you: 1. Nothing, and 2, your thanks.” The first Chief Scout

was Earnest Thompson Seaton, a well known conversationalist and naturalist. So, conservation has always been part of the Scouting program.



## Outdoor Ethics in the BSA

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## Outdoor Ethics:

- Outdoor Code
- Leave No Trace

Much of the Outdoors Ethics in Scouts BSA centers around 2 components:

- The Outdoor Code
- Leave No Trace
  
- Think of the Outdoor Code is the goal, and
- Leave No Trace is the how of outdoor ethics.

Outdoor Ethics:

- Outdoor Code
- Leave No Trace

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# Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to-  
Be Clean in my outdoor manners,  
Be Careful with fire,  
Be Considerate in the outdoors, and  
Be Conservation-minded

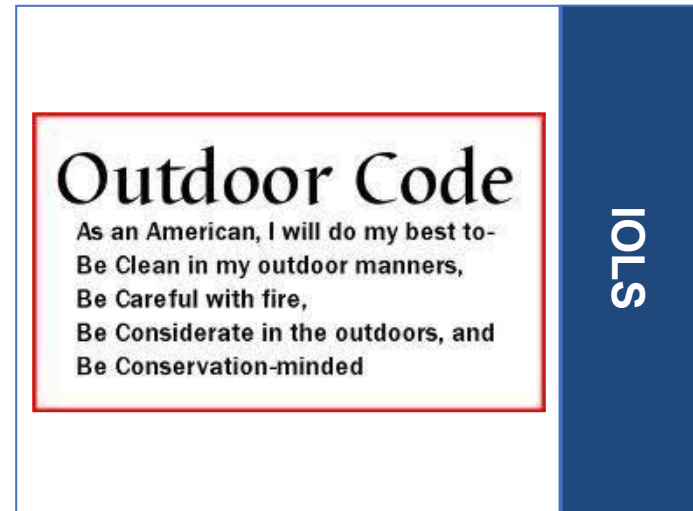
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## Outdoor Code

The Outdoor Code was introduced in the March 1953 issue of Boys Life and included in a subsequent printing of the Handbook for Boys.

The Outdoor Code reminds us of the importance of caring for the environment. It has special meaning whenever we camp, hike, and take part in outdoor activities.

Think of this as the “What” of Outdoor Ethics





**Primary method used by many organizations including BSA for teaching respect for the outdoor environment**



Leave No Trace reminds us to respect the rights of others on public land, both now and future generations.

- Consider the combined effects of millions of outdoor users, and the significance of a poorly located campfire or campsite.
- Think about how thousands of such instances degrade the outdoor experience for all.
- Think of this as the “how” of outdoor ethics



**Primary method used by many organizations including BSA for teaching respect for the outdoor environment**

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Leave No Trace  
**SEVEN PRINCIPLES**

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

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Handout: Leave No Trace tan “outdoor ethics” reference card (hang tag)

Dialog:

Leave No Trace encourages us to be good stewards of our outdoor resources with the Seven principles:



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## Resources

- Scout Handbook
- [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org)

**Handouts:** Leave No Trace Group Use brochure.

**Resources:**

- Chapter 7 in Scout Handbook
- Leave No Trace
  - Books, publications, reference cards, and more
- Leave No Trace Online 101 course: [Leave No Trace 101 Course \(lnt.org\)](#)
- Scouting.org



**Resources**

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- [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)

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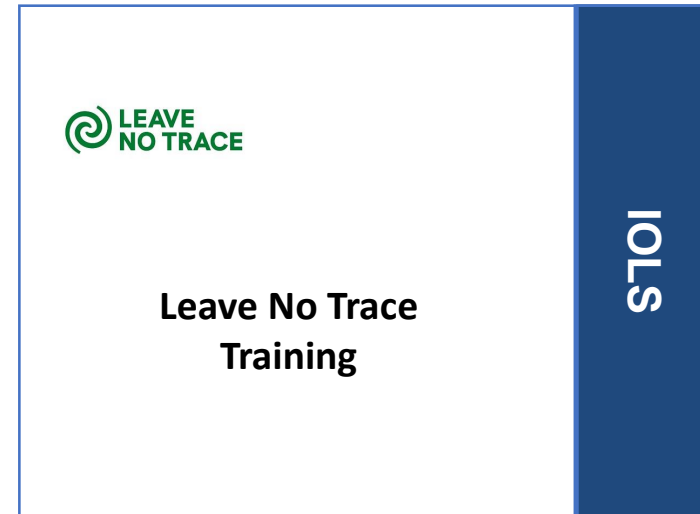
# Leave No Trace Training

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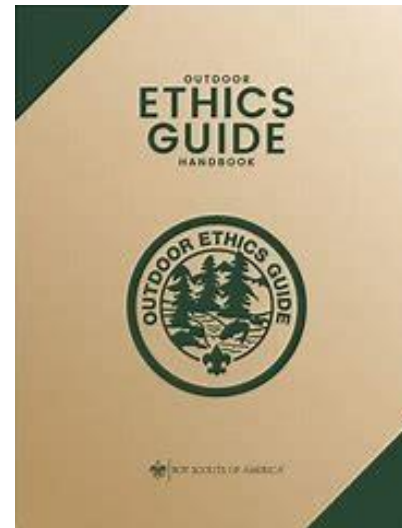
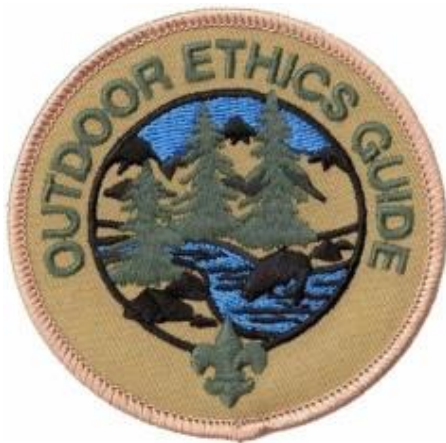
## Next Steps: Leave No Trace Resources and Additional Training

### Leave No Trace (LNT)

- Leave No Trace Online 101 course: [Leave No Trace 101 Course \(Int.org\)](#)
- BSA Leave No Trace Basics course—three or more hours
- BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor course—minimum 16 hours overnight
- BSA Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor course—five days, four nights



# Implement Outdoor Ethics within a troop



*Recognition name tag can be personalized.*

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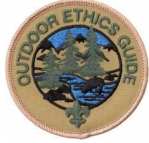
Prop: Outdoor Ethics Guide Handbook

Handout: The Outdoor Ethics Awareness and Action Awards Program brochure #430-063

Dialog:

- Outdoor Ethics Guide is a position for youth leadership.
- The corresponding adult position is titled “Outdoor Ethics Guide Advisor.”
- Outdoor Ethics Guide Handbook is available on the Scouting.org website as a PDF
- Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award
- Outdoor Ethics Action Award

**Implement Outdoor Ethics**  
**within a troop**



Recognition name tag can be personalized.

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## Summary

- Prevent
- Minimize
- Preserve

Scouting has a long and distinguished tradition of conservation leadership and environmental protection. As users of our natural resources, it is important for Scouts and their adult leaders to understand outdoor ethics not as a separate skill to master, but as a concept that is deeply woven into all aspects of Scouting.

Outdoor ethics and Leave No Trace offer cutting-edge approaches to integrating Scouting's ethical and decision-making focus into the outdoors environment. As cities grow and populations encroach upon protected natural areas, we must do more than just pick up the litter and extinguish campfires. Leave No Trace is not simply a program for camping; it is the cutting edge of Scouting values, and the Outdoor Code is important in all that is done outdoors.



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# Comments & Questions?

10LS

Handouts:

- Single serving granola bars

Activities (time permitting):

- No two-piece trash
- Trash timeline
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**Comments &  
Questions?**

**STOI**



**Thank you for sharing  
outdoor ethics with your  
Scouts**

**IOLES**