

# Leave No Trace and Outdoor Ethics

NCAC HAC Training Session I

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Rush Williamson

PATC Scout Liaison

NCAC Outdoor Ethics Advocate Vice-Chairman





# LNT IN A NUT Shell



“Leave No Trace is an education program that combines knowledge and judgment with ethical responsibility. It is a program designed to expand the understanding of how we can enjoy the out-of-doors while protecting the natural areas and experiences we cherish. Your group can do its part by learning more about the program and practicing LNT when ever they recreate outdoors.”





# Why A LNT Briefing?



- Scouts have recently gotten **very bad** press!
- The vandalism in Goblin Valley State Park, Utah.
- A number of incidents along the Appalachian Trail involving Scouts.





# AT LNT Practices



## PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE

“Check Appalachian Trail (A.T.) guidebooks and maps for guidance and note that camping regulations vary considerably along the Trail.”

“Travel in groups of 10 or fewer. If you are traveling in a group of more than 5, avoid using shelters, leaving them for lone hikers and smaller groups.” (LMPG)



# General Regulation Guidance

- Hunting Seasons on the Appalachian Trail  
VA, MD & PA Oct – May (except on Sundays)
- Shenandoah NP: No Hunting, Max Crew Size – 10, need FREE Backcountry Permit
- ATC's Local Management Planning Guide (LMPG) Max Crew Size – 10 - New



# General Regulation Guidance

- Maryland: No Camping except at designated sites, Fires only in official fire rings (Metal) except for Pogo Primitive Campground.  
Check before you go out – may have a Fire Ban
- Jefferson and George Washington NFs, Shenandoah NP and AT in Pennsylvania  
NO Fires at the moment.





# Helpful Hints



- Have Unit Leaders enroll in LNT Trainer Course or Awareness Work Shop
- Do not have two Crews “meet” and camp together
- Check with local land management agencies, regarding permits, group size, and area-specific regulations





# For More Information



- AT Conservancy [www.appalachiantrail.org/LNT](http://www.appalachiantrail.org/LNT)
- LNT Center for Outdoor Ethics [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org)
- Potomac Appalachian Trail Club [www.PATC.net](http://www.PATC.net)
- Shenandoah NP [www.nps.gov/shen/](http://www.nps.gov/shen/)
- MD Dept of Natural Resources [www.dnr.state.md.us](http://www.dnr.state.md.us)

