

**BACK COUNTRY HORSEMAN OF IDAHO
EDUCATION PROGRAM/LNT
Step 1: AN INTRODUCTION TO LEAVE NO TRACE
2003**

The Introduction to Leave No Trace Class is designed to teach students what Leave No Trace means and why it is important to learn the skills involved. Students will be introduced to Backcountry Horseman, our mission, visions, goals and our level of volunteerism. Then the seven principals of Leave No Trace will be explained. This class could be taught at chapter meetings, other user group functions, or a classroom. It is designed to be covered in 30 minutes. Below is a suggested itinerary for the Introduction to Leave No Trace Class.

I. Introduction – BCH – BCHI – CHAPTER

- A. What we do – volunteer members
- B. Mission Statement
- C. Vision Statement
- D. Goals to achieve our vision
- E. Economic value of volunteer BCH to State

II. Transition to education and LNT

III. Define LNT – multi user concept for everyone

IV. 7 Principles of LNT

A. Plan Ahead and Prepare

1. Trip Expectations
2. Knowledge of the area
3. Time of year / expected weather
4. Type of equipment / clothing needs
5. Meal planning and food preparation
6. Temperament and experience of stock / number of stock
7. Contact land management agency for pertinent information, conditions, and regulations in effect.
8. Special stock needs: confining in camp, grazing restraints, watering, supplemental feed

B. Travel And Camp On Durable Surfaces

1. Utilize durable ground when traveling and camping
2. In popular areas, concentrate use in established campsites
3. In remote areas, spread out use and choose resilient campsites
4. Avoid places where impact is just beginning
5. Stay on trails / do not cut switchbacks
6. Camp away from trails and water (200 ft. minimum)

C. Dispose of Waste Properly

1. Pack it in, pack it out
2. Carry out all trash and garbage (yours and others)
3. Properly dispose of human waste (cat holes vs. latrines)
4. Properly manage waste water from cooking and cleaning

5. Spread horse manure before leaving
6. Keep livestock out of main camp

D. Leave What You Find

1. Avoid damaging live trees and plants
2. Leave natural and cultural artifacts
3. Minimize campsite alterations

E. Minimize Campfire Impacts

1. Know current regulations and weather conditions
2. Utilize existing fire pits
3. Build mound fires (fire blanket) if on new site
4. Use only dead and already downed wood of small size
5. Utilize propane stoves

F. Respect Wildlife

1. Never feed animals or leave food behind
2. Observe wildlife from a distance
3. Control pets so they do not harass the wildlife

G. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

1. Use equipment of natural colors to blend with surroundings
2. Be aware of your noise level
3. Control pets at all times
4. Positive interaction with other users
6. Respect private property
7. Camp away from main trail when ever possible.

V. LNT Principles Are Guidelines, Not Rules

VI. Summary Statement & Closing