SUMMER 2018 — On behalf of the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, I’d like to welcome you to the inaugural Youth Educator eNewsletter, The Footprint. Since 2015, the Leave No Trace for Every Kid initiative has laid the groundwork for cutting edge youth research, curriculum development, and community building for the thousands of educators who work with youth in the outdoors.

It’s more important now than ever that each of us enhance our efforts to engage young people in what it means to be responsible in the outdoors. The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace are guidelines that can help youth understand how to Leave No Trace. But equally important is the why behind the Seven Principles and outdoor ethics. All of us working in schools, camps, federal and state land agencies and scouting organizations have an opportunity to educate and engage with youth daily in both the how and the why.

It is the goal of the Education Team here at the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics to be a resource to help you develop your skills as an educator, from the volunteer parent working with a group of youth, to the camp director who has been supporting a culture of outdoor ethics for decades. Please let us know how we can enhance the work that you do!

See you out there,

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What We Learned at Outdoor Retailer
The OR Summer Market was held in Denver from July 23-26. Amidst the buzz and brands, we caught a few education sessions focused on youth. Find out what the outdoor industry is talking about.

Read More

Exploring the Youth Program Accreditation

Did you know that your organization can become a Leave No Trace Accredited Youth Program? This one of a kind accreditation tool includes many unique features:

- Youth Engagement
- Program Evaluation
- Compliance Options

Learn More

Featured Activity: No Campfire, No Problem!

Feeling the burn? With multiple large scale wildfires burning all across the country and corresponding fire bans, this is a great activity to get you thinking about how to minimize campfire impacts.

Explore More

Featured Educator: Charlie Baul
Meet Charlie Baul, a 12 year-old Boy Scout who was appointed the Leave No Trace trainer for his troop. In completing his game design merit badge, Charlie created a Leave No Trace board game, 3D printed backpackers and all! During play, participants learn the Seven Principles and upon finishing, receive hang tags to continue practicing Leave No Trace beyond the game. We love this creative education tool, keep up the good work Charlie!

Submit YOUR activities, games, and ideas! - Each newsletter will highlight a Leave No Trace educator with a unique approach to engaging youth in Leave No Trace through games, activities, and more. Email julia@lnt.org with any leads.