SUMMER 2019 — To all of the summer education professionals out there—camp pros, land management folx, traditional educators, volunteers and others—just remember, you’re doing a great job. You are just about halfway through the summer! This halfway point is a great time to cycle in some new games and activities to help your youth and staff remain energized about why Leave No Trace matters.

We have loads of free activities, games and projects that will go beyond "how" to practice Leave No Trace and take your group into discussions about "why" we practice Leave No Trace. Giving young people the chance to understand and interpret why responsibility matters turns Leave No Trace from rules and regulations into personal guidelines and ethics. Leave No Trace serves to empower people to protect the outdoors by helping them to make responsible decisions while enjoying the outdoors.

In the end, it's a simple equation. Games and activities equal young people understanding why practicing Leave No Trace matters. Thanks for being a Leave No Trace educator and here's to a great second half of the summer for everyone!

See you out there,

Andrew Leary
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Girl Scouts Leave No Trace at State Parks
Girl Scouts love state parks and so do we! July 13-14 thousands of girls will have outdoor experiences in hundreds of state parks across the United States. Check out some resources as well as a list of the parks where Leave No Trace state advocates will be joining in on the fun and learning!

Read More

Summertime Cooking

This summer don't forget the most important recipe of all to cook during your campfires—campfire soup! A good reminder for us and a fun way to teach youth participants about minimizing campfire impacts. Check out this quick and easy "recipe."

See More

Featured Activity: Bigfoot & Friends

Just in time for all of your summer outdoor adventures, we have added the Bigfoot & Friends Activity Booklet to our youth educator library! This versatile activity booklet can be used either formally or informally to engage youth while exploring a new park, outdoor area or their backyard.

Explore More

Featured Educator: Dana Shanaghan et al.
Park rangers and interns at Gulf Islands National Seashore created an interactive pop-up activity designed to engage kids of all ages to think critically about Leave No Trace. Participants were encouraged to decorate upcycled cardboard turtle shapes answering three questions: How to Leave No Trace? Why Leave No Trace? and How to inspire others to Leave No Trace? By reusing the cutouts themselves, they were encouraged to rethink trash! These young environmental stewards posted their decorated turtles on display in the park auditorium, truly encouraging everyone who saw them to Leave No Trace. We especially love that this engaging activity dove into the why and helped inspire others!

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.

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