



FALL 2021 — If your year has gone anything like ours, 2021 has flown by! We're taking stock, looking forward, and already excited for what's ahead. Here are some of our favorite 2021 highlights:

- Helping thousands of girls all across the country share the love with their local state parks during **Girl Scouts Love State Parks** weekend
- Welcoming seven new programs committed to elevating their stewardship education efforts to the **Leave No Trace Accreditation** process, bringing the total to 50 programs working towards this designation
- Forming a new partnership with **Urban Connections**, a Forest Service outreach program, to bring Leave No Trace education to youth-focused organizations in Boston, Detroit, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Louis.

As the year winds down, we also wanted to say thank you. Your dedication as Leave No Trace educators has been pivotal in a year when environmental issues have become much more pronounced. It is increasingly important to make sure the youth we work with feel empowered, celebrated, and have the tools they need as future leaders. We hope you get the chance to recharge over the next couple of weeks, and we'll see you back here in 2022 with more Leave No Trace activities, resources, and learning opportunities!

Wishing you all the best,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Julia'.

Julia Oleksiak (she/her/hers)
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Amplifying Native Voices in the Classroom



November is Native American Heritage Month. **IllumiNatives**, a nonprofit created and led by Native peoples, has a Native Education for All initiative. With a goal to "amplify the voices of contemporary Native peoples in your classroom," they provide many lessons and resources to help guide conversations with students year round.

[Learn More](#)

Calling all Colorado Kids



Kids for ColoradoGives connects the next generation of Colorado givers with local nonprofit organizations. Introducing your children and grandchildren to Leave No Trace helps them grow into the next generation of outdoor stewards! Not in CO? **Consider a gift supporting youth education for Giving Tuesday.**

[Donate Today](#)

Featured Activity: LEGO & Leave No Trace



Use LEGOs or any building blocks you have available and follow these Leave No Trace prompts to practice outdoor stewardship. A great activity for the whole family as temperatures fall and we all find ourselves inside a bit more often.

[Explore More](#)

Featured Educator: Sophia Anderson of Pack 25



Scout Sophia Anderson has been a driving force behind bringing Leave No Trace to the Black Hills in South Dakota. She wanted to make sure she was fully trained before talking to people about outdoor ethics. This led her Pack Leader to become a Leave No Trace Master Educator to share this knowledge with the troop. Sophia now often volunteers for big tourism events in the Black Hills area to graciously remind visitors that this is her troop's backyard and not a visitor's trash can, and to be respectful of these places during their stay. At the event pictured, over 22,452 visitors were counted. Sophia, however, was not daunted by the numbers stating, "I'll do my best to teach the ones I missed now next year. Or the next. They always come back." We're inspired by your drive Sophia, keep up the great work!



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

Curriculum | Youth Program Accreditation

Education Research & Resources

Leave No Trace Organization

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