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# Leave No Trace for the International Community






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# Contents

## Part 1: Overview

Leave No Trace and the International Community	4
About Leave No Trace and the Leave No Trace Organization	5
Leave No Trace History	6
Document Purpose	6

## Part 2: International Program Components

Learning and Getting Involved	8
Membership & Partnerships	8
Translation Requirements for Leave No Trace Materials	9
Extended Translations of Leave No Trace Materials	10
Leave No Trace Consulting	11
Training	12
Training for All	13
Instructor Course Descriptions	14
International Scholarship and Funding Support	15
Research	15
Leave No Trace Logo Use	16
Merchandise	16

## Part 3: Creating A Leave No Trace Organization

Leave No Trace International Branch Organizations	18
Steps To Establish a Leave No Trace Branch Organization In Your Country	19



# Part 1: Overview



Leave No Trace is dedicated to protecting the outdoors by teaching all people to enjoy it responsibly.

## Leave No Trace and the International Community



Leave No Trace has a long, rich history working with the international community. In recent years, the organization has worked with groups, agencies, academics, outfitter and guide services—as well as youth-serving organizations in over 96 countries—by sharing our resources, training, and educational tools. The organization has conducted Leave No Trace training in select countries, accepted international partners worldwide, and helped to start Leave No Trace organizations in Canada, Ireland, Japan, Korea and New Zealand.

Leave No Trace is an international organization that oversees and drives the Leave No Trace movement and education program globally. It is dedicated to protecting the outdoors by teaching all people to enjoy it responsibly.

The organization accomplishes this mission by delivering cutting-edge education and research to millions of people every year.



## About Leave No Trace and the Organization

Our love of the outdoors can come at a cost: damage to natural lands, fire scarring, polluted waterways, and serious wildlife issues. Leave No Trace works to preserve our natural environment and protect the outdoor experience for those who love parks, forests, and waterways. Leave No Trace programs are designed to provide critical stewardship, education, training, and programs to protect lands enjoyed by the public.

Leave No Trace is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization and remains the all-inclusive for Leave No Trace education and training programs. Leave No Trace unites land agencies and managers, manufacturers, outdoor retailers, media, conservation groups, user groups, organizations, clubs, outdoor educators, researchers, academics, and the public—groups committed to maintaining, preserving, and protecting the outdoors. This partnership network allows Leave No Trace information to be broadcast to millions each year.

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WE REACH OVER 96 COUNTRIES  
WORLDWIDE WITH OUR PROGRAMS

## Leave No Trace History

Leave No Trace was established with the goal of building greatly needed environmental programs that teach awareness and respect for natural areas in the United States. In 1994, a nonprofit organization, Leave No Trace, Incorporated was established through a collaboration among United States-based federal land management agencies and various non-governmental organizations.

These organizations identified the need for a Leave No Trace entity that could devote its resources to research, development and the delivery of a comprehensive program in the United States.

In 30 years, the Leave No Trace organization has invested millions of dollars in its educational framework, programs for the public and scientific research. Leave No Trace mandates strict guidelines regarding the use and appropriate distribution of all elements of the Leave No Trace program, resources, texts, logos and copyrights. These protections exist in every aspect of the Leave No Trace educational program to maintain its integrity.

This document provides guidance for the use and incorporation of Leave No Trace in countries outside of the United States. If you reside in Canada, Ireland, Japan, Korea or New Zealand, please consult your Leave No Trace organization directly. If you have questions about Leave No Trace not addressed in this document, please contact the Leave No Trace office directly.



A photograph of two hikers in a mountain landscape. In the foreground, a young Black woman with braided hair is smiling and looking to the right. She is wearing a dark green jacket over a plaid shirt and has a yellow gear strap on her waist. In the background, a man with glasses and a beard is also smiling and looking to the right. He is wearing a brown jacket over a blue and red plaid shirt and has a large orange backpack. The background shows a vast mountain range under a blue sky with light clouds.

# Part 2: International Program Components



## Learning & Getting Involved

Anyone, regardless of country of origin, is welcome to learn and share the [Leave No Trace Seven Principles](#), take one of the organization's [online courses](#), or join Leave No Trace as a [member](#) or [partner](#).



## Membership & Partnerships

People, organizations, and companies from the international community who join Leave No Trace receive the same benefits as United States-based members and partners.

**JOIN HERE: [MEMBERS](#) AND [PARTNERS](#)**

*\*If you or your company resides in a country with an international branch organization, please join or partner with that country. This includes: Canada, Ireland, Korea, Japan and New Zealand. Contact information for Leave No Trace International Organizations can be found [here](#).*

# Translation Requirements for Leave No Trace Materials

CONTACT LEAVE NO TRACE  
REGARDING TRANSLATION  
REQUIREMENTS:

INFO@LNT.ORG

It is possible for organizations, companies, and individuals to translate basic elements of the Leave No Trace program. There are several translation requirements:

1. [Individual membership](#) or [partnership](#) is the minimum requirement for those wishing to translate and distribute Leave No Trace information into another language. Please contact Leave No Trace if you wish to translate any elements of the Leave No Trace program to learn about this process and the details.
2. Please [contact Leave No Trace](#) for the translation process.
3. All translations are the property of Leave No Trace and must be accompanied by the appropriate [copyright information](#).
4. All translations must be submitted to Leave No Trace as Microsoft Word documents.
5. Members and partners have different tiers of Leave No Trace materials available for translation.

## ACCEPTABLE TRANSLATIONS BY MEMBERS:

- Translations of basic [Leave No Trace Seven Principles](#) text. The Leave No Trace logo may be used in conjunction with the Leave No Trace Seven Principles translation. If used with translated material, the logo must appear above the translated text. The logo may not be translated, though the words "Leave No Trace" may be translated and appear below the logo.

## ACCEPTABLE TRANSLATIONS BY PARTNERS:

- Translations of basic [Seven Principles text](#). The Leave No Trace logo may be used in conjunction with the Leave No Trace Seven Principles translation. The logo must appear above the translated text if used with translated material.
- Please see the Partnership section of the [Brand Standards Guide](#) for information about how to use the logo. The logo may not be translated, though the words "Leave No Trace" may be translated and appear below it.

## Extended Translations of Leave No Trace Materials

This option is available for individuals, groups, agencies, and organizations interested in using and/or translating extended elements of the Leave No Trace program. There are several translation requirements:

- [Individual membership](#) or [partnership](#) is the minimum requirement for those wishing to translate Leave No Trace information into another language.
- Please [contact Leave No Trace](#) for the translation process and for a list of materials available for translation and associated fees.
- All translations are the property of Leave No Trace and must be accompanied by the appropriate copyright information.
- All translations must be submitted to the Leave No Trace as Microsoft Word documents.
- The member or partner will also pay a processing fee to Leave No Trace before translation.
- The processing fee entitles the partner to use the translated material in their programs. The partner is not otherwise entitled to sell or distribute the translated materials beyond their immediate constituents or program participants.

The Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor Handbook is not available for translation unless an International Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor Course is being conducted with one of the current U.S.-based Level 2 Instructor Course Providers. [Contact Leave No Trace](#) for more information on international Level 2 Instructor Courses.

## Leave No Trace Consulting

While Leave No Trace wishes to assist the international community with Leave No Trace efforts, resources are limited. Initial consultation with staff for up to one-hour is complimentary. This includes communication via email, phone, video call, in-person visits, etc. Additional consultation with representatives from Leave No Trace regarding education, program elements, research, youth programs, operations, land management structure and relationships, training, and more will be billed at our standard hourly rates. Please [contact Leave No Trace](#) if you want to discuss these options further. Consultation rates apply to the following types of projects:

- Creation of new materials regarding Leave No Trace from a specific ecological/ cultural perspective.
- Creation of Leave No Trace items such as Seven Principles banners, signs, or custom reference cards.
- Development of custom training for a specific environment, audience, or recreational activity.
- Consulting on best management practices, site design, research, or research design.

All translations and other intellectual property arising from consulting efforts are the property of Leave No Trace and must be accompanied by the appropriate copyright information. Translations must be submitted to the Leave No Trace as Microsoft Word documents.



# Training

The Leave No Trace [Training model](#) is a two-track system. International training falls under the same guidelines as domestic, US-based training. Leave No Trace [online workshops](#) and [Level 1 Instructor Courses](#) are an excellent option for the international community for learning Leave No Trace skills and techniques.

If you are interested in training or becoming a Level 2 Instructor, but your country does not have a branch or International Provider offering these trainings, please consult the Leave No Trace's schedule offered by our course providers for a listing of courses in the United States.

If trained Level 2 Instructors in your country are available to teach the Leave No Trace [Level 1 Instructor Course](#), Leave No Trace [Skills Course](#), or Leave No Trace [Workshops](#), you are encouraged to work with them to provide training. To run a Level 1 Instructor Course, you must have two instructors. At a minimum, one must be a certified Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor, and the second instructor should ideally be a Level 2 Instructor but can be a Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor. Please visit [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org) or [contact Leave No Trace](#) for a list of trained Instructors in your country. Visit the Training Overview webpage to learn how to run courses.

International Level 2 Instructors must be under a current Training Agreement with the Leave No Trace before offering any Level 1 Instructor Courses. International Level 2 Instructors need insurance to run a Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course. As international community members, you must also [submit course rosters](#) to receive certifications or certificates of completion.

## BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL COURSE PROVIDER

Leave No Trace works with international organizations to establish International Course Providers. Instructors working for Course Providers are Leave No Trace Level 3 Instructors who are able to offer the highest level of Leave No Trace training, the Level 2 Instructor Course.

This 5-day certification course takes place in either frontcountry or backcountry locations and certifies certify others as Level 1 Instructors.

To apply to become an International Course Provider please visit this webpage to see the requirements and to submit the required materials.

Fees that apply include:

- **Initial Level 3 Instructor Course training**
  - \$12,000
  - Travel and expenses
- **Annual licensing and partnership fees**
  - Licensing
  - Legal fees
  - Partner Dues

Applications are reviewed as received.

# Training For All

<b>INSTRUCTOR TRAINING</b> (Requires recertification every two years)	<b>RECREATIONAL TRAINING</b>
<p><b>Certified Level 1 Instructor</b> A two-day virtual or in-person certification</p> <p><b>Certified Level 2 Instructor</b> A five-day in-person certification resulting in the ability to instruct Level 1 courses.</p> <p><b>Certified Level 3 Instructor</b> This certification is held by Course Provider instructors only.</p>	<p><b>Leave No Trace Skills Course</b> A two-day course resulting in a Certificate of Completion</p> <p><b>Leave No Trace Workshops</b> 30-minute to full day online or in-person courses.</p>

# Instructor Course Descriptions

LEAVE NO TRACE OFFERS THREE LEVELS OF INSTRUCTOR COURSES:



## LEVEL 1 INSTRUCTOR COURSE

**Level 1 Instructor Course graduates are prepared to offer Leave No Trace Skills Courses and Workshops to their community.**

Participants taking the two-day Level 1 Instructor Course learn Leave No Trace skills, ethics, and techniques for educating others about these low-impact practices. In-person Level 1 Instructor Courses typically occur over two consecutive days and involve spending more than half of the course outdoors. Virtual options are also available for Level 1 Instructor Courses.



## LEVEL 2 INSTRUCTOR COURSE

**Level 2 Instructor Course graduates are certified to instruct Level 1 Instructor Courses and are prepared to teach Leave No Trace Skills Courses and Workshops.**

The five-day Level 2 Instructor Course is a comprehensive education course. Participants are provided with in-depth training on Leave No Trace skills and ethics through practical application during a field-based course. Participants learn Leave No Trace techniques through various methods—including discussions, scenarios, demonstrations, and hands-on activities—throughout all five days of the course. The Level 2 Instructor Course is also designed to prepare participants to be the best possible teachers of Leave No Trace regardless of setting.



## LEVEL 3 INSTRUCTOR COURSE

**The Level 3 Instructor Course will certify the branch organization or other designated organization/company and their instructors to teach Level 2 Instructor courses.**

This course is designed for International Branch Organizations and other designated, independent organizations and companies. Participants of a Level 3 Instructor Course should already be Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructors and be employed or contracted by an approved Provider or Branch. This course is a higher level training intended to ensure that Branch or Provider instructors are prepared to deliver the Level 2 Instructor Course as effectively as possible. The course also covers important administrative details as a Branch or Provider.

**All Instructor Courses require recertification.**



## International Scholarship and Funding Support

Leave No Trace does not have scholarships, grant opportunities, or funds available to support international work, translations, or training.

## Research

The Leave No Trace organization focuses on recreation-related ecology, human dimensions of natural resources, and other research. There is no current capacity or funding for research outside the United States. Please reference our comprehensive list of [Leave No Trace Related Research and a Bibliography](#).

Appropriate fees will apply if interested in consultation with researchers from Leave No Trace. The Leave No Trace organization does not currently travel internationally for research projects.

Please review the organization's full [Research Agenda](#) to learn more about the projects we are working on or are interested in.

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## Leave No Trace Logo Use

The logo can be used by international entities just like in the United States. Please refer to the [Brand Standards Guide](#) for information.

### **ACCEPTABLE USES OF THE LOGO:**

- For use above the Leave No Trace Seven Principles translations (please see section III. Translations for details).
- To promote educational workshops and presentations (Must be a member or a partner who is a Leave No Trace Level 1 or 2 Instructor).
- Use on website, newsletter, and promotional materials by current partners.

The logo may not be translated, though the words “Leave No Trace” may be translated and may appear below the logo.

Alteration of the Leave No Trace logo in any way is expressly and strictly prohibited. The translated words “Leave No Trace” may appear directly below the current Leave No Trace logo. Leave No Trace will provide translated logos for newly formed Leave No Trace branch organizations only.

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## Merchandise

Just as in the United States, the production, distribution (even for free), and sales of merchandise bearing the Leave No Trace logo, name, or content is strictly prohibited. If a group wishing to produce merchandise is a current, official dues-paying partner, Leave No Trace merchandise sales may be permitted with the approval of artwork and an appropriate, pre-arranged royalty agreement in place. If you are a current Leave No Trace partner, you may purchase select Leave No Trace materials and promotional items for resale. Visit the [Leave No Trace Store](#) to learn about items available for purchase.

# Part 3: Creating a Leave No Trace Organization

Leave No Trace currently has branch organizations in [Canada](#), [Ireland](#), [Japan](#), [Korea](#), [New Zealand](#), and. If you reside in one of these countries, please contact the branches if you are interested in training and education in those countries.



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## Leave No Trace International Branch Organizations

As a component of Leave No Trace's programs to support the international community, we have established five international branch organizations: Leave No Trace Canada, Leave No Trace Ireland, Leave No Trace Japan, Leave No Trace Korea and Leave No Trace New Zealand.

The Leave No Trace branch organizations function as independent, nonprofit, or charitable organizations in their respective countries with their own governance and funding sources. However, they share the mission, core curriculum, and strategic priorities with the United States-based organization.

### **LEAVE NO TRACE IS INTERESTED IN BRANCH PROPOSALS FROM COUNTRIES THAT:**

Make a strong case for the need for an independent Leave No Trace organization.

- To sustain a stand-alone Leave No Trace program, it must have legitimate, verifiable support, including funding, from substantial and diverse partners, agencies, and organizations.
- Have an existing pool of eight or more Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructors with a long-term commitment to providing training on behalf of the organization.
- Have committed to pay the initial branch affiliation dues of \$50,000 USD to Leave No Trace for: 1)

The initial Level 2 Instructor Course so the organization can establish its own training structure; 2) Transfer of intellectual property including copyrighted curriculum, principles, programs, as well as trademarked name and logo; 3) Development of the Branch contract; 4) Additional Leave No Trace staff administration and branch consulting fees.

- Demonstrate additional starting operating capital of \$50,000 USD to be used for infrastructure, materials, staffing, and other internal start-up fees.

# Steps to Establish a Leave No Trace Branch Organization in Your Country

1

## STEP ONE

The primary organizing group has been an active Leave No Trace partner for a minimum of two years.

2

## STEP TWO

Assemble a committee of leaders 10 or more from relevant and diverse land management and government agencies, outdoor organizations, the scientific community, academia, youth-serving organizations, recreation-based organizations, corporations, donors, etc., that will partner to establish the organization. This committee should include all major stakeholders that will make a national Leave No Trace program successful.

3

## STEP THREE

Contact Leave No Trace to discuss your specific situation and needs prior to drafting a formal proposal. Once there is discussion and agreement about the establishment of a branch, the process of submitting a proposal can begin at the discretion of the Leave No Trace organization.

4

## STEP FOUR

Submit a complete proposal that contains the following components:

- Organizational Overview: Statement of need, strategic objectives, desired outcomes of Leave No Trace programs.
- Profiles of organizations, agencies and individuals involved and serving on the committee.
- Organizational structure and role: Directors, paid staff, education review committee, training structure, volunteers, etc.
- Names and contact information for eight or more current Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructors who will commit their time to the organization and participate in a 5-day Level 3 Instructor Course provided by Leave No Trace. This Instructor Course is designed to train people who are already active Level 2 Instructors how to teach the Level 2 Instructor Course in your country.

## *(continued)* Steps to Establish a Leave No Trace Branch Organization in Your Country

- Operational plan and timeline to establish the organization, major strategic initiatives for the first three years, three-year proposed budget that includes funding and proposed funding sources as well as expenses such as staffing, overhead, training initiatives, production of educational materials, affiliation dues to Leave No Trace.
- A minimum of 6 letters of support/ recommendation from land agencies, government agencies, key partners, companies, environmental organizations, etc.
- Demonstrated capital funding of a minimum of \$50,000 USD to establish the organization.

### **STEP FIVE**

Upon acceptance of the proposal and signing of an International Branch Contract, the new branch organization will be required to pay a commencement fee of \$50,000 USD and \$8,000-\$20,000 USD annual dues thereafter, based on individual branch criteria. Dues are subject to annual increases at Leave No Trace's discretion.

### **STEP SIX**

The new branch organization will also begin work with Leave No Trace staff to plan the Leave No Trace Level 3 Instructors Course, Orientation Visit, exchange curriculum and programmatic information as well as other media templates (website, etc.), trademarked name and logos, etc. Additionally, Leave No Trace offers extended organizational/educational consultation visits at our headquarters with staff as desired.



# Contact

For additional questions outside the scope of this document, please contact the Leave No Trace organization:

[info@LNT.org](mailto:info@LNT.org)

303-442-8222

[www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org)

Leave No Trace

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