



# LEAVE NO TRACE MASTER EDUCATOR COURSE TEACHING SESSION INFORMATION

The Leave No Trace Master Educator Course is the foundation of the national Leave No Trace education model. Graduates of the Masters course are expected to teach others, including agency personnel and the public, the principles of Leave No Trace through workshops of varied lengths or LNT Trainer courses of at least 16 hours in duration. To better equip masters to meet this expectation, each participant will teach at least one class in the field during their course. These classes provide hands-on learning experiences and the chance to practice LNT teaching strategies in a supportive, educational environment.

Your teaching session should be 15-20 minutes long, and can be either skills-oriented or theoretical in content. We encourage you to use a creative and interactive teaching style (skit, role-play, game, story telling, question & answer, etc.) and to avoid a lecture/discussion format.

Keep in mind that your class should provide a thorough look at the chosen principle or topic since it probably won't be covered again during the course. Typically, the classes trigger stimulating group discussions following the formal presentation.

## **Turning An Outline Into Instruction**

The following considerations and questions are designed to help you determine the what, how much and when of instructing the LNT curriculum.

1. Select and research your class topic.
2. Determine what is important for your students to learn and how the subject applies to your overall program objectives.
3. What three key points would you want these people to remember a year from now? Can you enhance the learning with an activity, a teachable moment or a game? Have you allowed enough time to scout the site, to do repeated demonstrations, and to answer questions?
4. Gather information that will give your class depth. Examine your own experience for anecdotes that illustrate important points. Ask yourself, "Do I have enough experience, skill and knowledge to teach this topic adequately?"
5. Try to simplify the instructional organization so that you can teach it off the top of your head or by casually referring to a simple written outline.
6. Ask for feedback on your outline and comments on your progression.

You will receive an array of teaching materials the first day of your Masters course for future use. In the meantime, the LNT website <[www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org)> is an excellent resource for background information and activities along with the regional Skills and Ethics booklets. Feel free to contact the NOLS Leave No Trace office if you need additional information. (307) 335-2220, or [LNT@nols.edu](mailto:LNT@nols.edu).

Remember that your class will take place in the backcountry, so you will not have access to audiovisual equipment. However, visual aids can be drawn on a sand bar, on your body, or on a sleeping pad. A good visual aid leaves a strong image and reinforces the topic of discussion. Plan on a group size of 8-12 people.

Each participant will receive constructive verbal and written feedback from the instructors and other group members at the end of their teaching session.

## Leave No Trace Class Topics

The following is a list of teaching session topics based on past courses. You may choose from the list below or come up with a topic based on your own interest, knowledge, and familiarity. We will discuss with you in advance your class choice to make sure that no one else has selected the same topic, and to make sure all the seven principles have been covered.

### LNT Principles:

- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize Campfire Impacts
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

NOTE: Plan Ahead and Prepare is not listed as a teaching choice since typically the instructors teach it as a demo.

### Other Topics:

- Leave No Trace for the Frontcountry
- Minimum-impact camping in bear country
- LNT for populations with special needs
- Impacted site rehabilitation
- Regional/local needs for LNT
- Local ecology/ecosystems/tree species
- LNT practices for specific activities i.e. stock use, rivers, rock climbing, mountain biking, etc.

**Please call NOLS Leave No Trace with your topic (307) 335-2220 or clip the form below and send to:**

**NOLS Leave No Trace  
284 Lincoln St., Lander, WY 82520  
Fax (307) 332-8811**

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Course \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to teach:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Second choice:** \_\_\_\_\_