



**Backcountry Horsemen of California  
Leave No Trace Master Educator  
Stock Course Description**

**Description**

The five-day Leave No Trace Master Educator Course is designed for individuals who will be teaching Leave No Trace Trainer Courses and Leave No Trace Awareness Workshops. The course focuses on the specifics of running Trainer Courses, i.e. a significant portion of the course is spent covering how to facilitate a Trainer Course – planning, logistics, equipment, running groups in the field, meals, risk management, how to teach, etc. Through classroom discussions, lectures and a four-day outing, this course covers the seven Leave No Trace Principles and outdoor ethics, as well as gives the participants tools and techniques for disseminating low-impact skills to outdoor enthusiasts.

The BCHC Master Educator Stock will be a base camp-style courses that generally involve minimal travel (hiking, etc.) during the day. There will not be any personal stock allowed at this course. All stock for demonstration purposes will be provided by BCHC.

**NO DOGS ALLOWED**

**CURRICULUM:**

A Leave No Trace Master Educator Course emphasizes skills and techniques essential to Leave No Trace minimum impact outdoor ethics and education. Leave No Trace courses do not teach basic travel, camping, or other outdoor skills, nor do they provide outdoor instructor certification.

**Core Components for Master Course Curriculum**

- Review of the role of Leave No Trace Master Educator.
- Discussion and practice of the principles and ethics of Leave No Trace.
- Discussion of the Leave No Trace Trainer concept and Training Guidelines.
- Overview of recreation ecology and human dimensions of natural resources, and types of resource and social impacts.
- Discussion of Leave No Trace teaching skills and techniques, student learning styles, and development of lesson plans.
- Development of a Leave No Trace Action Plan.
- At least one student led teaching exercise by each participant.
- Focus on interactive and hands-on field experiences.
- Review of the mission and need for the Leave No Trace program.
- A historical overview of the Leave No Trace program.
- Discussion of the role, function, and administrative structure of the federal land management agencies' Leave No Trace programs.
- Overview of the role, function, and administrative structure of the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics.

## TEACHING SESSION:

The Leave No Trace Master Educator Course is the foundation of the national Leave No Trace education model. Graduates of the Master Educator Course are expected to teach others, including agency personnel and the general public, the principles of Leave No Trace through Awareness Workshops of any length or Leave No Trace Trainer Courses of at least 16 hours in duration.

To better equip Master Educators to meet this expectation, each participant will teach at least one class in the field during their Master Educator Course. These classes provide hands-on learning experiences and the chance to practice Leave No Trace teaching strategies in a supportive, educational environment.

As such, prior to the course each participant will be assigned to teach one of the seven Leave No Trace Principles (or potentially a related topic) to the rest of the group. Teaching sessions should be **15 minutes long** (participants may be asked to do an additional short 5-minute lesson). Participants are encouraged to use a creative and interactive teaching style (skit, role-play, game, question & answer, etc.) and to avoid a lecture format.

The Leave No Trace website: [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org), is a great resource for background information and teaching ideas.

Check out the page on Teaching Resources: <https://lnt.org/teach/tools-and-activities-educators>

Participants should start planning their teaching session well before the course, however course instructors can provide more information and help when the course starts. Remember that classes generally take place in the field, so participants will not have access to audio-visual equipment. However, visual aids can be drawn on packable items such as a white plastic bag slipped over a sleeping pad. A good visual aid leaves a strong image and reinforces the topic of discussion.

Each participant will receive constructive feedback from the instructors and other participants at the end of their teaching session. This process is not intended to be intense or stressful, but rather an opportunity to practice teaching Leave No Trace to others in a comfortable environment where you can learn and grow as an educator.

For more information, please contact one of our – Leave No Trace Coordinators:

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