



DEPARTMENT OF
Conservation
AND LAND MANAGEMENT
Conserving the nature of WA
Healthy Parks
Healthy People

7 PRINCIPLES OF *LEAVE NO TRACE* for walkers

1. PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE

- Know the regulations and special concerns of the area you'll walk –
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
- Walk in small groups. Split larger parties into groups of 4–6.
- Repackage food to minimise waste.
- Take maps and a compass and know how to use them, to eliminate use of flagging tape or rock cairns.

2. WALK AND CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES

- Durable surfaces include established tracks and campsites, rock, gravel and dry grasses.
- Protect water sources – camp at least 100 metres from lakes and streams.
- Protect plant life – avoid spread of soil borne plant diseases by keeping boots free of soil when walking through disease risk areas, and using only approved vehicle access points.
- Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.

In popular areas:

- Concentrate use on existing tracks and campsites.
- Always walk on the track – even when wet or muddy – and walk just wide of the centre to avoid compaction and erosion, especially in sandy coastal areas.
- Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.

In pristine areas:

- Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and tracks.
- Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.

3. DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for rubbish or spilled foods. Pack out all rubbish and leftover food.
- Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 20cm deep at least 100m from water, camp and tracks. Cover and disguise the hole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.
- To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 100 metres from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.



4. LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND

- Respect indigenous art and other sites of cultural significance. Always get appropriate permission.
- Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch cultural or historic structures and artefacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species such as weeds.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.

5. MINIMISE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS

- Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the bush. Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a candle lantern for light.
- Where fires are permitted, use designated, constructed fireplaces only.
- Keep fires small. Only use dead, fallen fuel and sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out fire completely.

6. RESPECT WILDLIFE

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed animals, this damages their health and alters natural protective behaviours.
- Protect wildlife by storing rations and rubbish securely.
- Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.

7. BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR HOSTS AND OTHER VISITORS

- Respect other walkers and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Give way to other users on the track.
- Camp and take breaks away from tracks and other walkers.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.



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