

A Side Note on Rules and Regulations...

The increasing use in our nation's parks and forests has led to an increase in rules regulating recreationist's activities. Many of these regulations are imposed in reaction to increasing human impacts in these areas. A widespread Tread Lightly! and Leave No Trace awareness will go a long way towards limiting the rules needed to protect these wild places and protect the freedom and spontaneity of visitors. The illustration below illustrates the chain of events that occur when visitors are not practicing Tread Lightly! and Leave No Trace skills. The large amount of impact and resulting increase in rules and regulations is a vicious cycle that can be broken, but only if wilderness visitors adopt and use Tread Lightly! and Leave No Trace skills and ethics.

When We Don't Practice "Tread Lightly!" and Leave No Trace" Techniques . . .

