

## MINIMAL IMPACT PRACTICES

Behaviour of members whilst on outdoor activities may well determine whether "Scouts" will be welcome in that area again. Scouts Australia enjoys many privileges; this can only be preserved by respecting our environment.

Leaders should teach a concern for protection and conservation of the natural environment by setting a good example and by taking every opportunity to draw attention to the minimal impact code applicable to that area. Guidelines as stipulated by the local authority (e.g. Park Ranger) must be complied with.

Awareness of the problems and sensitivity to the outdoors should be exemplified by all Leaders during outdoor activities. They should encourage young people outdoors and be able to conduct outdoor activities with minimum environmental impact. Leader training covers ways that environmental impact can be minimised and procedures including:

1. Know and observe the fire regulations of the relevant State and locality you are in.
2. Obtain permission from landowners, wherever practicable, and thank them after the activity.
3. Gates: leave them as you find them.
4. Fences: cross through, rather than over them - avoid damage.
5. Crops: don't walk through them.
6. Stock: avoid disturbing them.
7. Wildlife, plants, trees, natural features: protect them.
8. Water Sources: don't pollute them with food, soap or excreta.
9. Use a stove in preference to wood fires.
10. Rubbish: take out all rubbish.

LEAVE YOUR CAMPSITE OR ACTIVITY AREA IN BETTER CONDITION THAN YOU FOUND IT.  
**"TAKE ONLY PHOTOGRAPHS AND LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS"**