Leave No Trace

All Grand Canyon backcountry users are asked to follow Leave No Trace principles. The goal is to have minimum human impact on the canyon as a result of your trip. Important Leave No Trace principles at Grand Canyon include:

1) Be well prepared. Know the route and area in which you plan to hike.
2) Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is prohibited.
3) Stay on main trails; do not shortcut switchbacks.
4) Pack out what you bring in. This includes used toilet paper and all trash.
5) Fires are prohibited below the rim. Do not burn toilet paper—pack it out.
6) Bury solid human waste at least 200’ from water in a shallow cat hole 4-6” deep and 4-6” in diameter.
7) To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 200’ away from creeks and potholes. Scatter strained dishwater.
8) Let nature’s sounds prevail. Keep loud voices and noises to a minimum.
9) Leave what you find. This is particularly important when it comes to cultural resources of any kind, including artifacts and archeological remains. Leave them as you find them.

More information about Leave No Trace is available on their website: www.lnt.org

Stock Use

Use of private livestock in the backcountry is limited to horses and mules only. Livestock use is limited to the Corridor Trails in the inner canyon and selected trails on the rim.

Only Bright Angel and Cottonwood Campgrounds accommodate private livestock. Grazing is not permitted; stock handlers must bring enough feed for the duration of the trip.

A backcountry permit is required for overnight private livestock trips. Application procedures are the same as for backpackers. Trip leaders will be charged $5 per stock animal per night.

Other requirements are in the Stock Use Handout available from the Backcountry Information Center.

When entering the park, each rider accepts responsibility for their personal safety and for the removal of injured or dead livestock from the park.

Preserve and protect the park...
It belongs to us all.

Vandalism or theft of park cultural or archeological resources (ruins, projectile points, pottery shards, etc.) is a violation of federal law. If you witness such a violation, please contact the National Park Service Silent Witness program at (928) 638-7767. All information received is confidential.
Boundaries & Camping: This map portrays the portion of the park where 77% of backcountry use occurs. It is provided solely to indicate use area boundaries and designated campsites. Maps for planning and route-finding are available by mail order or at the park.