

STATE OF THE UNION: 2017

When I look back at the breadth of Leave No Trace's accomplishments, I am struck by the influential roles of committed volunteers, scientific research and bold goals on the organization's recent outcomes. Leave No Trace truly hums when people and communities collaborate to deliver its tenants to those who need it most. I believe we, together, saw that at its best last year.

Between volunteer state advocates and Traveling Trainers, over 550 workshops and service projects were conducted in the U.S.. Our large-scale research program in popular national parks including Yosemite, Grand Teton and Denali provided valuable insights to help change people's behaviors in the outdoors. New youth research concluded that Leave No Trace makes a measurable difference in kids' affinities for nature. These studies, among others the Center worked on in 2017, are helping shape the future of Leave No Trace education.

Nature, as we know, provides enormous benefits for young people. Through one of our major initiatives, Leave No Trace for Every Kid, we were able to provide a platform to teach kids to protect the places they play. In fact, the Center was able to provide hands-on training opportunities for 235,000 youths in 2017. As we continue our work on the Center's other core initiative, Leave No Trace in Every Park, we are edging closer to satisfying the question, "What if everyone who spent time outdoors learned how to care for the natural world?" Our Hot Spot program is on the frontline of fulfilling this hope: repairing damaged natural resources while mobilizing the surrounding communities to commit to long-term change.

Though there is much still to do, I am excited about the Center's trajectory with these important issues. Most of all, I am grateful to you, the members and partners who took effective action and inspired millions of people to put our planet first.

Yours in the Outdoors,

Shawn Turner
Chair, Leave No Trace Board of Directors









19 PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS

In 2017, the Leave No Trace Hot Spots program worked with 16 parks and protected areas across the country facing irreversible environmental damage. The Hot Spots program, a component of the Center's Leave No Trace in Every Park initiative, identifies these areas suffering from the severe impacts of outdoor activities that can thrive again with Leave No Trace solutions. Each location receives a unique blend of education programs, service projects, follow-up programs and more. The result is areas on the road to a healthy and sustainable recovery with site-specific Leave No Trace tools in places.

With more than 11 billion visits to public lands in the United States each year, many outdoor areas across the nation are negatively impacted by recreational use. People generally do not intend to negatively impact the environment. Rather, they are simply uninformed about how to protect wildlife and the natural world. The result is significant damage: polluted water sources, litter and dog waste left behind, the spread of invasive species, wildlife that develops dangerous relationships with humans, trail and campsite erosion and more.

In 2017, the Leave No Trace teams provided 163 workshops, trainings, outreach events and service projects, reaching over 28,000 people. In the Hot Spots that included service projects, 5,000 pounds of trash was removed, 7 trails built or naturalized, and 1.5 acres of invasive species removed. The Center has completed work

at over 60 Hot Spots sites nationwide so far. By identifying and working with these Hot Spots and their communities

across the country, we can move towards recovering and protecting natural areas facing the threat of irreversible environmental damage.

Ultimately, the program aims to turn every Hot Spot into a Leave No Trace Gold Standard Site to ensure the area is healthy and

sustainable into the future.

Each location receives a unique blend of education programs, service projects, follow-up programs and more.

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Trainings, Events and Projects

Workshops,

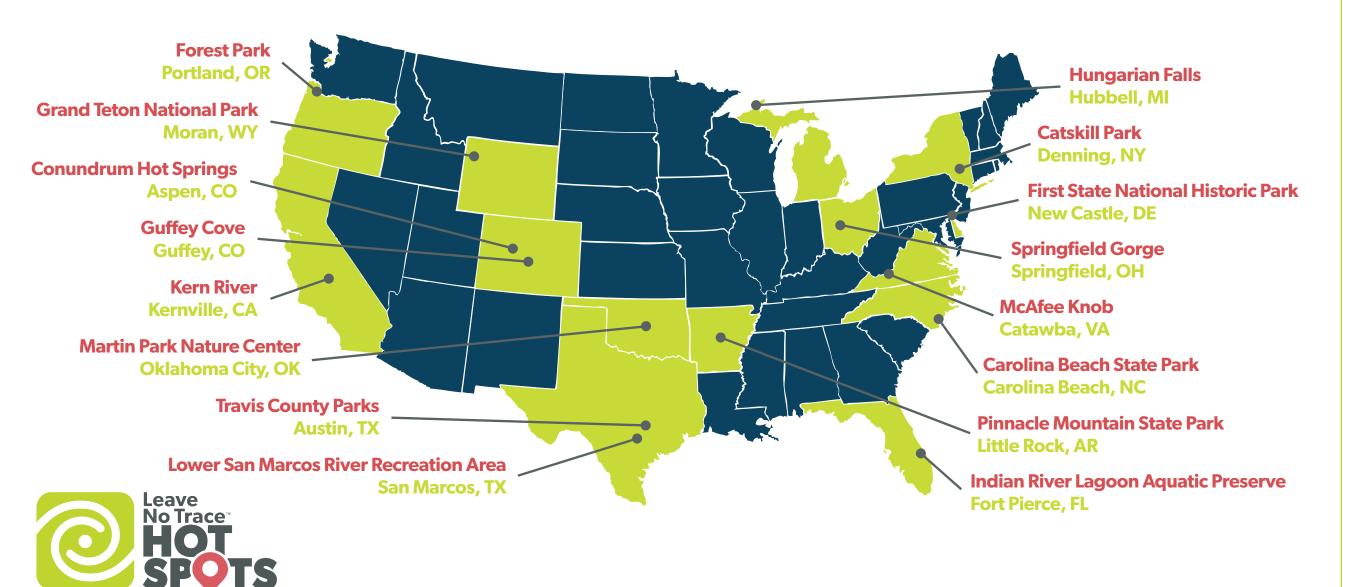
5,000 Pounds of Trash

Removed

People Reached



1.5
Acres of Invasive Species Removed







SPOTLIGHT ON PEAKAMOOSE BLUE HOLE

New York's Peekamoose spring-fed water Blue Hole is a gem of the northeast. The cool, spring fed water keeps this swimming hole a stunning blue color. The pool's rising fame has exponentially increased visitors and the impacts that come along with them. With anywhere from 600-2,000 visitors in a weekend, the ¾ acre Blue Hole sees its fair share of impacts including soil erosion, trampled vegetation, litter, food waste, human waste, loud music, social trails and more.

During the Hot Spot week, the Leave No Trace team conducted 3 events including several public workshops, effective communication workshops for agency employees, environmental organization/educators as well as a service day. Much of the teams' time was spent at Blue Hole where they made an educational connection with each visitor on site. The Hot Spot armed visitors with crucial Leave No Trace information and the story was continued in a feature in the New York Times.



Volunteer Hours



200 Trash Bags Handed Out



1,663
People Educated in Leave No Trace







OVERVIEW FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JAN 1 - DEC 31, 2017

The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics had a

successful financial year. Total Unrestricted Revenues grew approximately 20% over the prior year, and correspondingly total Education and Outreach Program spending increased 21%. This was a direct result of increased contributions, grants and education program services.

The accompanying summary financial information is derived from the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethic's audited financial statements. The complete audited financial statements and annual tax return are available for download on our **website**.

Kurt Achtenhagen, CPA

Director of Finance and Operations

Sources of Support & Revenue	\$2,058,665		
Partnerships & Grants	63%		
Individual Giving	15%		
•	11%		
Program Services Merchandise Sales	,0		
	6%		
In Kind Donations	5%		
Use of Funds	\$1,906,175		
Program Services	83%		
Fundraising	10%		
General & Administrative	7 %		
Total Assets at 12/31/17	\$629,234		
Cash & Equivalents	58%		
Inventory	17%		
Accounts Receivable	14%		
Furniture & Equipment	7 %		
Prepayments & Other	4%		
Based on annual audited financial statements.			

LEAVE NO TRACE NOW

As we are now deep into the second half of 2018, you have undoubtedly heard from the Center about the Leave No Trace in Every Park initiative which set out to ensure that everyone who steps into the natural world is provided with tools to develop an outdoor ethic. Simultaneously Leave No Trace for Every Kid, established along with the Every Park initiative, is in play to connect all children to the outdoors and what it means to care for and protect wild and natural areas. In strategic terms, these key initiatives help poise the organization to ensure the long-term integrity of the outdoors; healthy wildlife, appropriate use of fire, clean water, parks and trails — and arguably ensure the long-term health of the human population.

Today, we are amplifying and executing on critical work to support these two initiatives. Throughout this report you will see that success. Along with our now established Hot Spots program, innovative offerings for kids and other key efforts, we also formed key new partnerships. A case in point is with the outdoor tourism sector. The Center's pilot partnership with the Colorado Tourism Office, allowing us to influence visitors to and around the state with Leave

No Trace education. Through hotel, lodging and outdoor outfitters, we created Colorado-Ready principles specific to the and unique recreational opportunities in the state. Testing and building upon this model, we will soon forge similar partnerships in more states.

Looking forward, these initiatives remain vital to the Leave No Trace mission. The flood of people enjoying the outdoors continues, yet the resources to care for them lag behind, leading to critical concerns about our environment's long-term health. Leave No Trace works tirelessly to reach every visitor to public lands. Together with you and the community of Leave No Trace advocates



MAJOR DONORS | Hearty thanks to these generous supporters

The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics is a

membership-based organization. We deeply appreciate all of our supporting members and partners — the Center's programs and projects would simply not be possible

without your generous support. No group is more valuable to our work than our major donors. The individuals and families on this page made significant gifts in the past year and we offer our sincere thanks to all of you!

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE | Members of the Leadership Circle contributed \$1000 or more to Leave No Trace.

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MAJOR DONORS | The individuals and families listed here contributed \$250 or more.

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The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics partners with companies that share a passion and commitment for protecting our cherished outdoor resources. These important partners contribute a voice and resources to further our vital work.

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Los Padres ForestWatch

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Zero One Vintners



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YOUR SUPPORT MADE IT HAPPEN

Here's a look at what your support accomplished last year



16
Hot Spots Revived and Protected



2,102
Service Hours at Damaged Parks



7,500+
National Park Visitors
Participated in Leave No
Trace Research



Training Programs
Conducted by Leave
No Trace



15.4
Million People
Received Leave No

Trace Education



235,000

Youth Connected to the Outdoors with Leave No Trace Programs



4,701

New Trainers & 375 New Master Educators



11,244

Educational Books Put in the Hands of Advocates



10

Gold Standard Sites
Designated as Model
Leave No Trace Areas



608

Organizations and Companies Partnered to Spread Leave No Trace

