

# Fish Right, The Tread Lightly!® Way

## Lightfoot™'s Tips For Responsible Fishing



### **T**ravel only in the right places

- Fish only where allowed.
- In trail hiking areas keep your feet the on trails.
- When you step off trail to search for campsites, fishing holes or a nice spot to rest, watch your step and don't trample plants.
- Travel in waters open to your kind of boat.
- Use signs to help you stay in the right places.
- Be aware—oceans, rivers, and some lakes have strong and dangerous currents.

### **R**espect animals, plants, and people

- Don't chase, scare, feed or try to pet animal.
- Get help from an adult to practice catch and release.
- Catch only what you will eat.
- Always look around you before you cast, and never cast over someone's head.
- Take care not to damage shorelines and shallow waters where many fish and birds live.
- Keep your noise down, especially around others sharing the water.

### **E**very time you go outdoors: think safety, bring a friend, and be prepared

- Never fish without an adult.
- Always wear a life jacket while riding in a boat or wading in water.
- Don't stand up in a small boat such as a canoe or rowboat.
- Remember to pack seven important items: water, food, first aid kit, raincoat or poncho, flashlight, sunscreen, and a whistle.
- Bring along bug spray.
- Always check the weather before fishing.
- Layer your clothes and be prepared for changing temperatures.
- Wear sturdy shoes that grip slippery surfaces.
- Don't forget your fishing permit.

### **A**lways leave the outdoors better than you found it

- Don't litter or leave behind food or trash.
- Always pack out used fishing line; it can kill birds, fish, and other wildlife.
- Don't pick plants or take animals that live in the water.
- Wash your gear after every trip so you won't spread weed seeds.
- Help protect shorelines: launch boats in the right place.
- Refuel boats on land or at a fuel dock.

### **D**iscover how fun the outdoors can be when you Tread Lightly!

- Keep your parents and rangers happy—follow all the rules.
- You will have more fun if you take care of the outdoors.
- Make the right choice—if you do something wrong others might follow and make more damage.
- Remember the great outdoors is home to me and my friends; treat it with care.