



Backcountry and Outdoor Ethics Hike Safford Notch

Please join us for a Backcountry and Outdoor Hike at Safford Notch!

Backcountry and Outdoor Ethics hikes are an opportunity for new and beginner adventurers of all ages to explore the Appalachian Trail and become familiar with the seven Leave No Trace principles that guide outdoor ethics.

OPTION ONE: The itinerary for this hike is approximately 5-6 hours long.

Parking: Meet in parking area (15m)

Briefing: What to expect, intro to BOE, and trail etiquette (10m); Hike In (~2.0 hrs)

LNT Activity: Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces (25m)

Participants will explore and discuss various surface types in order make informed and responsible choices while hiking, recreating, and camping.

LNT Activity: How Far is 200 ft (10m)

Participants will try and guess exactly how far 200ft is and why this measurement is important in backcountry and outdoor ethics.

Lean-to for Lunch: Bring your own lunch - *Privies available here* (30m)

LNT Activity: Quiet on the Set (60m)

Lights, camera... bad behavior! We'll be "producing a movie" that teaches others how to behave in the backcountry. In the first take, our actors will perform a scene showing some bad outdoor behaviors. The director will then call "Cut!" and our audience of editors will jump in to rewrite the scene. With guidance from our expert editors, the actors will rerun the scene, but this time, the right way.

Hike Out (~1.5hrs)

Debriefing (15m)

Departure

OPTION TWO: Approximately 2-3 hours long.

For groups interested in learning about Backcountry and Outdoor Ethics only (no hike), a modified version of the above itinerary is available at Round Barn Day Use area.

Safford Notch Campsite Total Hike: 4.6 miles, 1050ft elevation gain, ~3h 30m

Parking: Safford Brook Trailhead, New Portland, ME, GPS: 45.1652, -70.2366

If you or your group are interested in booking this trip, please contact MATC's Outreach Steward, Amanda Reimer, at americorpoutreach@matc.org.

This trip will be scheduled on an individual basis between June 15 – November 1, 2025.

Group Size: 1-15 participants

There is no cost to participate in this trip. Participants are responsible for their own transportation to the trailhead, gear, water, and bringing a bagged lunch and must have an adult chaperone over 18 years of age.