



## Backcountry and Outdoor Ethics Hike

# Piazza Rock

*Please join us for a Backcountry and Outdoor Ethics Hike at Piazza Rock!*

Backcountry and Outdoor Ethics hikes are opportunities 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.

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 (15m)

*Hike In (~1.5 hrs)*

**BOE Topic:** Travelling and camping on durable surfaces, discuss at bridge (15m)

**Day in the Life of a Ridgerunner (if available):** Visit the MATC Caretakers dwelling for an interview with Henry about what it's like being an MATC Ridgerunner (20m)

**View Piazza Rock:** Side trail (25m)

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

**LNT Activity: Leave No Trace Crime Scene** (40m)

*Participants will arrive to the scene of a "campsite crime." This scenario simulates the resulting chaos from a group of campers who have failed to "know before you go." Participants will step into the role of environmental investigators tasked with documenting infractions and identifying the LNT principles that were violated.*

**LNT Activity: Trash timeline** (25m)

*Participants will engage in a hands-on exercise to learn how long it takes for improperly disposed of trash to decompose in the environment.*

*Hike Out (~1hr)*

**Debriefing:** Round of questions or statement of something participants will practice next time they are outdoors hiking or camping (15m)

**Departure**

**Total Hike:** 4.03 miles, 627ft elevation gain, ~2h 30m

**Parking:** Piazza Rock Trailhead, Rangeley, ME, GPS: 44.8868, -70.5407

If you or your group are interested in booking this trip, please contact MATC's Outreach Steward, Zack Oxendine, at [americorpoutreach@matc.org](mailto:americorpoutreach@matc.org). This trip will be scheduled on an individual basis between June – October 2026. **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.