



2020-21 Awardee

Adventure Bound

Adventure Bound was awarded Green Grant funds for Center for Outdoor Ethics Leave No Trace trainer course and certification and camping equipment compliant with our sustainable procurement policy

Award Amount: \$1,200

Adventure Bound is a club that takes place out of the classroom, a place to meet like-minded, motivated individuals. Adventure Bound facilitates all types of adventures ranging from hiking, biking, rafting and surfing, snowboarding, zip-lining, camping, museum trips, and even going international! With the beautiful city of Philadelphia at our doorstep, they have the privilege to get outside, visit museums, go to concerts, and explore different parts of the city as a group.



Guiding Principles: Leave No Trace Solutions

The Office of Sustainability's Green Grant provided Adventure Bound with the opportunity to gain certification from the Outdoor Ethics Leave No Trace (LNT) program. The student groups leadership successfully completed the LNT program and are excited to share their knowledge with the Temple community.

Leave No Trace strives to educate people about what it means to "leave the environment just how you find it." As a non-profit organization, its mission is to educate the public on the most effective, environmentally sustainable, and ethical ways to enjoy the outdoors.

The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace

Leave No Trace's 7 principles provide an easily understood framework of minimum impact practices visiting the outdoors. Click on the links to learn more.

[Plan Ahead & Prepare](#)

[Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces](#)

[Dispose of Waste Properly](#)

[Leave What You Find](#)

[Minimize Campfire Impacts](#)

[Respect Wildlife](#)

[Be Considerate of Other Visitors](#)



Student Leaders Shaping Zero-Waste Culture on Campus.

Since day one, Adventure Bound takes the utmost responsibility for their ecological footprint. Their Green Grant application not only focused on gaining LNT certification but also included a request to purchase camping equipment so that more students would have the opportunity to experience the outdoors sustainably.

As their mission spreads across campus, their conversations are an example of the zero-waste culture Temple students aspire to cultivate. Adventure Bound plans to use their newfound knowledge in many different areas of sustainability:

- Mentor program for general members to maintain their Leave No Trace certification
- Facilitate regular Leave No Trace workshops and trainings virtually and in person for Temple Student Activities
- Create and curate digital media content about how to ethically pack, hitch a tent, hang hammocks, and other sustainable travel ideas for all members of the Temple Community
- Purchase and use sustainable camping and outdoor gear that will eliminate or limit negative ecological impact and facilitate responsible behavior outdoors
- Set an example of zero waste consumption for other student organizations around campus by shopping at thrift stores, upcycling, repairing and reusing outfitting supplies
- Utilize knowledge and sustainable gear on camping trips and within the Temple community.

Sustainable Purchasing for the Outdoors

A stipulation of any Green Grant purchase is that the materials and products meet certain sustainability criteria. Adventure Bound took this challenge seriously and selected products that met a wholistic definition of sustainable purchasing.

Durability

Longevity is just as important to look at as how a product was manufactured or designed. A product that may be marketed as 'sustainable' but only lasts a year or so could be less sustainable than a more traditional piece of equipment that will last 5 years.

Adventure Bound selected products with their entire lifecycle in mind. In prioritizing longevity and durability, they take a step towards ethical and responsible consumption and reduce the carbon and waste footprint of their club.

Small and Local

Each purchasing decision represents an opportunity for institutions to choose environmentally and socially preferable products and services and support companies with strong commitments to sustainability.

The Office of Sustainability and Adventure Bound together committed to not shop big box stores and large online retailers. Instead, they connected with family-owned hardware stores in Philadelphia, building relationships with merchants, keeping Temple dollars in our local economy. With the store close by, they were also able to reduce the negative impact carbon impact of shopping.



Student Reflections

Adventure Bound's four student leaders are shaping zero-waste culture on campus.

Brandon McCleene, certified in EMT, is a nursing major (2024) from Massachusetts. He will be guiding in Northern Maine for a canoe outfitter summer of 2021. Favorite outdoor space: Any and all National Parks

Christina Trezza, certified in NREMT, is a Health Professions major (2022) with a minor in Biology, and is on pre-medical track. She helped start the first Adventure Bound organization at [Brookdale Community College](#). Favorite outdoor space: Sea Bright Beach, NJ

Issa Kabeer is an Environmental Science major (2021). Issa is an EcoRep with Temple Sustainability and works at hospitals providing emotional therapy. Favorite outdoor space: Lower Merion Botanical Garden

Nadia Ramos, certified in LNT, is a psychology major (2022) on the pre-occupational therapy track. She also transferred from Brookdale and peer coaches students with intellectual disabilities. Favorite outdoor space: Yosemite National Park



Why is affordability and accessibility a core value of your organization?

"A primary goal of Adventure Bound is to allow all students -- regardless of socioeconomic status, disability, or experience -- the opportunity to explore the natural and built world around them. Adventure Bound strives to reach this goal by hosting programs that are affordable, accessible, and interesting. Through the Green Grant, Adventure Bound has been able to acquire camping gear, allowing students who do not have access to camping equipment or have never been camping the opportunity to join us." **BRANDON**

"Access is so important to the mission of our club. We can offer opportunities to travel without going abroad. We try to make it cheap so people come and so it is affordable to make friends." **CHRISTINA**

How can spending time outside make us better climate leaders?

"It is easy to become disconnected from the effects of climate change if you do not see them on a regular basis. By getting outside and exploring nature, students are able to better understand the effects of climate change and are more likely to take action to change them." **BRANDON**

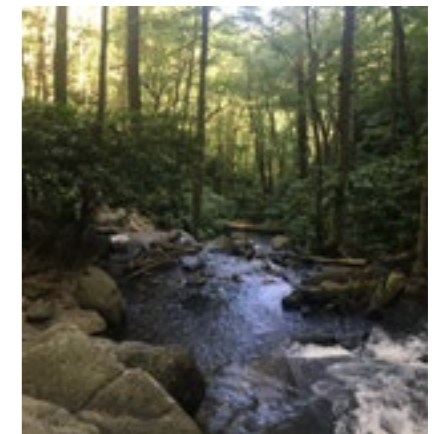
What does Leave No Trace mean to you?

What are your key takeaways from the training? How can LNT help students embody stewardship? Stewardship = care of the environment and nature, action-oriented and in community

"You can exist in nature without destroying nature. Before completing LNT training I thought that meant I had to limit my time or my interactions with the outside world but now I know that

I can and should actively participate in taking care of the land. I now have more knowledge about our potential to harm changed my perception of our relationship to the environment." **NADIA**

"The point of Leave No Trace isn't just to go out and not litter, but to coexist with nature. Human beings are notorious for going out and damaging nature, but it's so easy to not. That's why we did this training, to show other people how easy it can be to enjoy and protect it without doing harm. With more knowledge we learn how we can still be active in nature without doing harm." **CHRISTINA**



What would you want Temple Students to know?

“Everyone knows that the world is going to blow up and I don’t know why it’s not more of an emergency. Everyone knows that the environment is in horrible shape right now, but for some reason the knowledge to change our behavior isn’t a priority. We want to show people how easy it is.” *NADIA*

“People don’t see the immediate impact of their actions. People will throw water bottles on the ground or build a fire on a beach and then they go camping and don’t think about why it matters where they pitch their tent because it doesn’t immediately affect them. I am not even an expert, but you don’t need to attend hours of lectures or be an ecologist, just spend 10 more seconds thinking about it. Just literally 10 more seconds to think about what you do outside.

That’s why we want to share the knowledge because we know if people knew they would care.” *CHRISTINA*

What would you say to students who are struggling to make the transition to sustainable purchasing?

“It’s important to be really intentional about the lifecycle and the durability of the product. It’s important to be critical about things that might be marketed as sustainable because they might have one specific feature that is sustainable, but it isn’t made to last. It’s so important to invest in products that have a long life. The disposability is a huge reason why we have so much trash at all.

That begin said, even us, at first, we were like ‘oh no’ but then we were forced to research local vendors and learned a lot about the local economy and market

for camping equipment. And again, with some of the larger companies, it was a good challenge to our convenience addiction to consider which larger vendors had values-aligned missions, or commitments to durability and repairing over replacing.

[Thinking critically about the equipment we were purchasing with the Green Grant allocations] opened my eyes to what it would mean to not just expect something right away and to think about the whole life of a product over what might be most convenient for me.”

CHRISTINA

What do you hope for the future of Adventure Bound?

“We want other organizations to see what we’re doing and be inspired. Like we’re an outdoorsy group and other students might not be thinking about sustainability as much as us but

we want to be an impetus for them to start thinking about buying smaller, buying local. Knowledge always starts somewhere and we can be where it starts for someone. I hope it escalates.” *NADIA*

“We’re all students and we should be able to do these things no matter what. I want to study abroad but it doesn’t quite fit in my career plan so it’s exciting to be able to travel and learn with and from my peers in new places even if it isn’t formal classroom education.

Adventure Bound was my gateway to everything else. I’ve made some of my best friends through Adventure Bound. It’s because it was a group of like-minded individuals spending time together. I didn’t know that I could even have friends with the same hobbies in the same pre-health track, the same mind set and career.”

CHRISTINA

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