

- The **L**and **E**thics **A**wareness **F**ellowship –

L.E.A.F. Award

- a unit driven Outdoor Ethics award program for MCC summer camps -

The **L**and **E**thics **A**wareness **F**ellowship, or simply **L.E.A.F.** award, is an opportunity for troops and crews to earn a ribbon for their unit by demonstrating an awareness of the Outdoor Ethics program when at residential camp in the Michigan Crossroads Council. It is a simple, yet important way, for units to take an active role in becoming more conservationally aware, learn the basic principles of BSA Outdoor Ethics, and earn a ribbon for their flag. At the end of their summer camp experience the successful unit will have completed 5 of the required elements and 5 electives found on the LEAF award requirements checklist. Once the requirements have been met, the checklist is signed by the unit leader and given to the camp director or his designate.

Successful units will receive the LEAF ribbon showing that they have properly taken care of their camp having shown good conservation skills and understanding of the Outdoor Ethics program.

At the closing ceremony, or in their exit packet, successful units will be recognized and will receive the LEAF ribbon showing that they have properly taken care of their camp having shown good conservation skills and understanding of the Outdoor Ethics program.

Items included in this MCC LEAF award packet.

- **Three posters** of the LNT principles, Tread lightly principles, and the Land Ethic. These are to be posted at the campsite.
- **Three pages of Reference material** that includes
 - LNT Trifold with descriptions of each principle.
 - A Tread Lightly sheet with the Tread Principles and descriptions
 - A short Biography of Aldo Leopold and description of The Land Ethic along with the BSA Outdoor Code.

These pages can be used as reference material during unit discussions to help better understand Outdoor Ethics and implement the LEAF award program

- **The LEAF Award Requirements check-off sheet.** Use this to check off a total of 10 requirements: 5 required + 5 electives. Once complete, the unit leader signs and dates the checklist and turns it in to Camp Director for processing.

The leader in charge may facilitate this program or assign to a youth or adult in the unit to oversee the program. It should be a part of the normal operations of the unit during summer camp. Becoming aware of how best to minimize impact at summer camp (or any kind of camping) should be a regular part of the outdoors experience.

