

GARBAGE SYSTEM

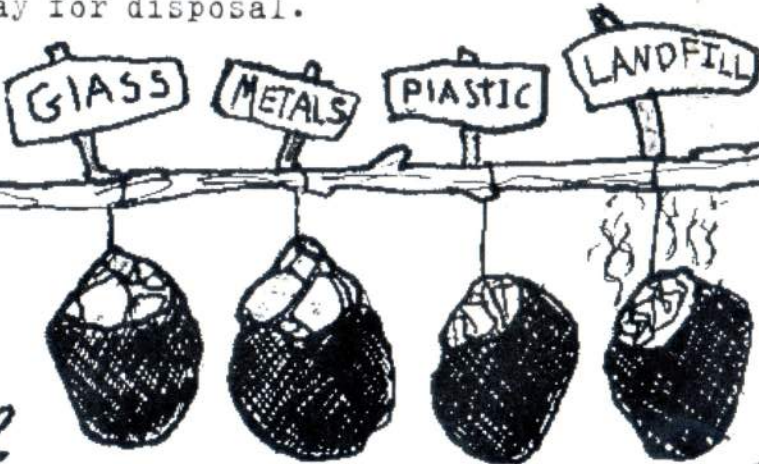
There is no waste management team in the woods. We are all responsible for the garbage produced here.

We pick up micro-trash every time we see it.

We separate waste into Compost, Burnable, Plastic, Metal, Glass and Land Fill.

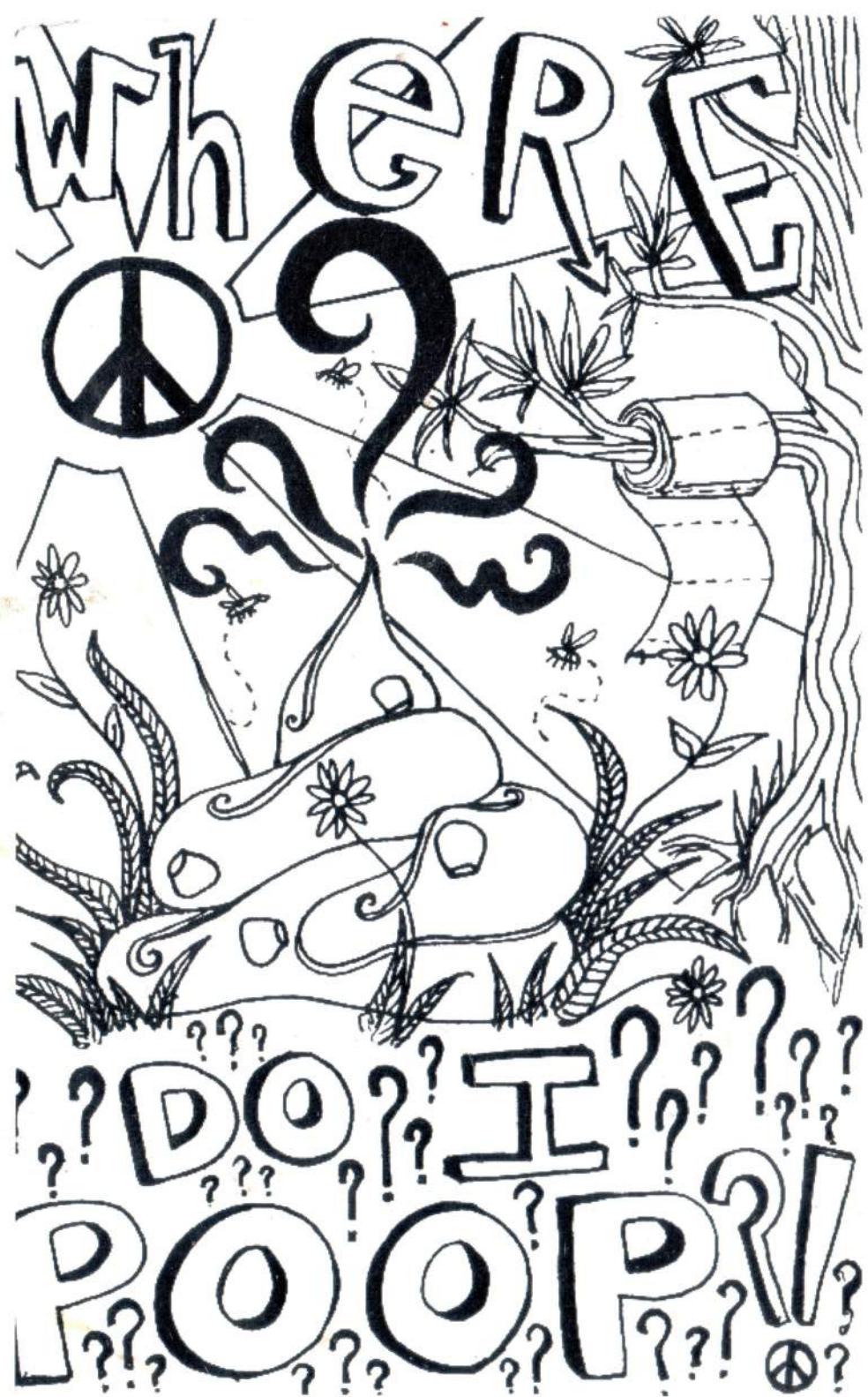
We bury food compost in compost pits, burn-cardboard and waste paper in fire pits, and bring recycling and land-fill trash out of the woods.

When we have free hands on our way to the road, we pick up a bag of trash. When we leave the gathering we take as much garbage with us as we can. Garbage from the gathering should be taken at least 50 miles away for disposal.



Talk to local dumps about sorting

Please do not burn plastic. It smells bad.



WELCOME HOME!

No one is in charge.
There is no they,
There is only us.

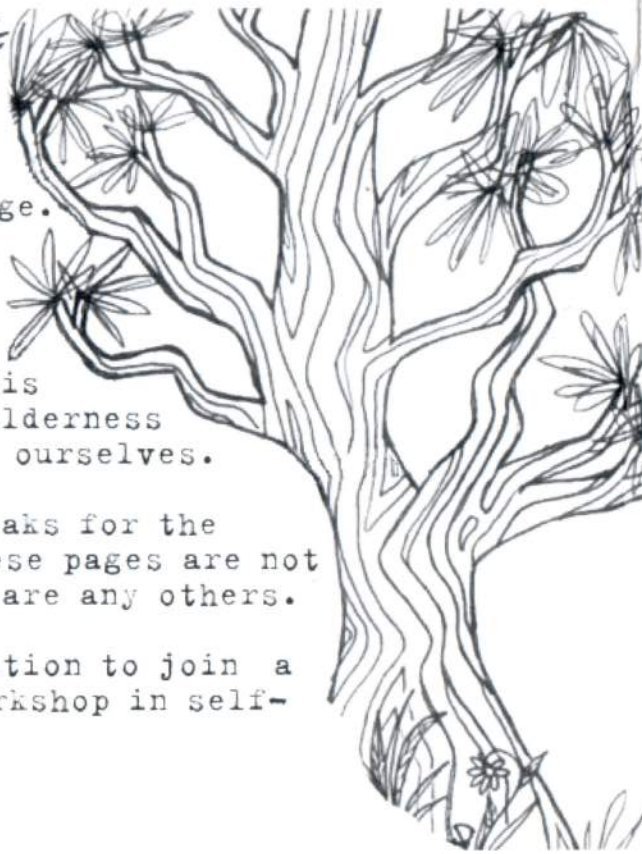
No one created this
village in the wilderness
for us, we did it ourselves.

No one person speaks for the
whole family. These pages are not
"official", nor are any others.

This is an invitation to join a
participatory workshop in self-
government.

Nothing is assured to be provided because no
one is in charge. We are all responsible for
taking care of ourselves and each other
here. Be sure to bring the following;

- Tent and/or Tarp and Rope
- Sleeping bag or blankets
- Warm set of clothes
- Protective footwear and socks
- A cup and/or bowl and eating utensil (Bliss)
- Flashlight and batteries
- Rain poncho
- Water proof matches or lighters in water
proof containers
- Bulk food and produce
- Common sense



Clean up

Clean up starts when we arrive. Our goal is
to leave the land better than we found it. We
are in charge of cleaning up our own
campsites.

Every individual should plan for a period of
clean-up and renaturalization before leaving
the woods. The best way to make this easy on
ourselves is to walk lightly on the land.
Pack lightly. Don't pack in heavy items that
are not food. Don't make alterations to the
woods you don't want to undo. Don't bring in
products that will create excess garbage.

Many items brought into the woods turn out to
be unnessasary, and people may be tempted to
leave them behind in frustration. We simply
do not need luxury items to enjoy each
other's company and have an amazing time.

When we leave a camp, no one should be able
to tell humans have ever been there. All fire
pits are buried and duffed. Areas trampled
barren are aerated and duffed. Everything
from tiny candy wrappers to unwanted clothing
to tents should leave with whoever brought it
in. If we pack it in, we pack it out. If we
changed something we change it back. All
trails that did not exist when we got here
should be disapeared. We are all in charge of
cleanup, and none of us want to be
left alone in a field of garbage.

Many strong and lasting friendships
have been forged during clean up.
Making all signs of a gathering
dissapear can be the most fun
and rewarding part!



NUDITY ♀



Nudity is commonplace at gatherings and is the natural state of human beings.

Be aware! Law enforcement has been known to write expensive tickets for public nudity.

Nudity is not a sexual invitation, and harassment is always inappropriate! We interact with a naked person the same way we interact with a clothed person. Creepiness, stalking, and unwanted advances have no place here.

DOGS

Dogs fight other dogs, kill wildlife, get into food, and shit everywhere. Be aware that there will be many free roaming dogs that may not interact well with yours. If you have the option to leave the dog at home, you will have a much lower stress gathering.

We know, of course, "not your dog". So-o-o-o- Keep your dogs under voice control, or on a leash. Carry a trowel and bury ANY dog poop. As anywhere else, you are responsible for your dogs behavior, and safety. Most kitchens ask to keep dogs out of the whole kitchen area, and all ask to keep dogs out of their supplies.

If you see a free ranging dog, it is not a free dog. Help it re-unite with its human or leave it alone. Do not take it home with you.



The SHITTER

We are all responsible for sanitation. We use slit trench latrines to maintain a sanitary environment, minimize impact on the land, and prevent sickness. Poop only in these designated "shitters".

Find out where the shitters are BEFORE you have to go! If there is no shitter in the area, dig one! If no one in the area knows what a shitter is, educate them!



To use a shitter:

First poop in the long narrow hole.

Then cover poop and toilet paper with lime or wood ash. This prevents flies from getting into the shit and carrying disease to people. Flies can burrow through many inches of dirt, but cannot get through a light dusting of lime. We keep water with 1% bleach or hand sanitizer at the shitters to wash our hands.

If a shitter cannot be reached, dig a cat-hole at least a foot deep and bury poop. Never poop near a water source, spring, or water pipe. It is our responsibility to bury ANY poop we see. Toilet paper from peeing is also buried.

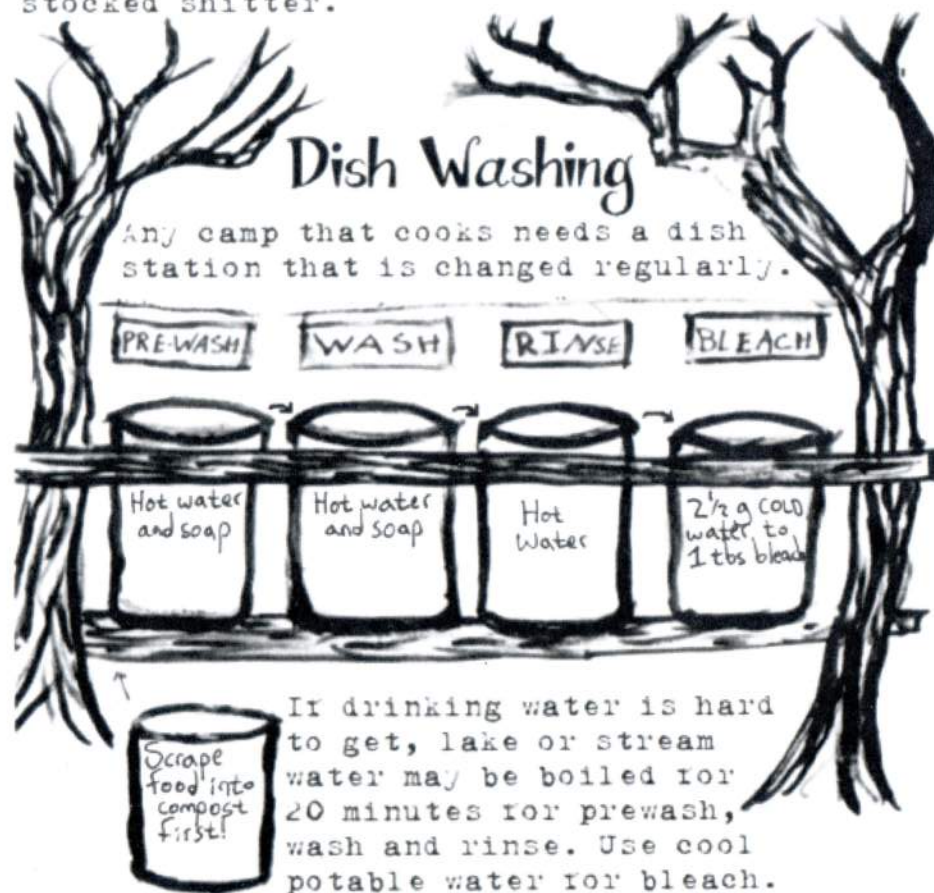


Shitters are about 6 feet long, 1 foot wide, and over 4 feet deep. They should be dug at least 300 feet away from water and cooking areas and filled in when 15 inches from the surface.



If the hole fills with water, fill in the hole and start over uphill.

It can be helpful to make signs at the shitter to explain proper pooping procedure. Try to get everyone you share a shitter with to share the responsibility of maintaining a clean, well stocked shitter.



If drinking water is hard to get, lake or stream water may be boiled for 20 minutes for prewash, wash and rinse. Use cool potable water for bleach.

Fire

Most forest fires start from a cigarette butt or an unattended fire. All are caused by carelessness. It's always a good idea to not smoke in areas with dry grass, leaves, brush, or anything else that is generally flammable. For the sake of safety and clean up, all smokers should make sure their cigarettes are completely out and keep their cigarette butts with them until they can be put in the trash.



Another common source of out-of-control fires is cooking oil and grease. Grease fires WILL EXPLODE if they have water thrown on them. If a container of grease or oil is on fire, cut off all air to the fire by carefully covering it over with a lid. Be careful to do this without knocking it over. If you can not safely do this you must suffocate the fire with dirt and sand. Put out a grease fire only with sand or a real fire extinguisher.



Fireworks have no place in the woods. They start fires, scare children and dogs, and attract the attention of the man- not to mention being annoying, and an old, not very funny joke.

If there is an out of control fire, it may be a long time before firemen show up. First make sure you and the people around you are safely outside the burning area. Yelling FIRE or SHANTI SENA to alert others is a good idea until there is a sufficient number of people there to control the fire. If you come to fight a fire you should bring a 5 gallon water bucket (full or empty) and a shovel if possible. Lines of people often quickly form to pass buckets of water from a water source to the burning area.

We encourage each other to share communal fires instead of having hundreds of small, private ones. This brings us closer together, improves fire safety, and minimizes our impact on the land. Camping together and helping out at kitchens can be the most rewarding part of a gathering.

Sharing mealtime and cooking responsibilities is an integral part of what makes disorganization work.

All camps should be at least 100 feet away from water. Never camp uphill from, or next to springs or water lines. We encourage each other not to cut down live wood or standing dead trees. Use fallen dead wood instead.

Rain is real! Always think about how rain will affect a campsite. Dry riverbeds and low areas will flood.



Dig a fire pit away from dry grass, brush, and overhanging trees. Surround your fire pit with dry rocks to keep it contained, and clear the immediate area of anything that may dry out and spread your fire out of boundaries. Remove all visible roots from the fire pit. All fires need a shovel and a 5 gallon bucket full of pond water in case of emergencies. No fire should EVER be left unattended. Forest fires are very real and have happened before! Trained firemen may be many miles away. We are all in charge of fire safety!



When food is ready, we designate someone to wash their hands and use a clean serving utensil to serve it. Some kitchens serve food at a counter to lines, and others prefer to serve while we sit at the fire and relax. No matter the kitchen's style, we bring our own cup or bowl ("bliss") and wash our hands. When serving or being served food, keep bliss away from and below the food container. We don't touch a serving utensil to blissware, or put our blissware above a serving container.



When we work in kitchens, we wash our hands before working with food. We don't touch food if we're sick. If we have wounds on our hands, we wear gloves. We clean all surfaces with bleachwater before each use. We use only clean knives and cutting boards.

Supplies are not stored on the ground. They are put up on pallets, shelves, or logs. They are covered with a tent or tarp for protection from the sun and rain.

Small packages of food and food with excessive packaging like bottled water and individually wrapped cheese slices should be left in the grocery store. Buying in bulk saves money, and makes less trash to haul out later. Plugging into a kitchen and sharing the responsibilities of acquiring and preparing food is economical, and more fun. A good way to make friends in a kitchen is to collect firewood, go on a water run, or do some dishes.



Water

Just like everything else, we are all in charge of sanitary drinking water. Many experienced people work hard to tap fresh springs for this purpose. We also use water filters to ensure we are free from parasites and disease. Be conscious of the water lines, and be sure to stay away from spring heads.

Find out where to get filtered drinking water upon arrival.

Drinking unfiltered water from lakes, ponds, streams, or rivers makes people sick.

If there is no filter set up, or you are not 100% sure of your water's source, boil your drinking AND cooking water for 20 minutes!

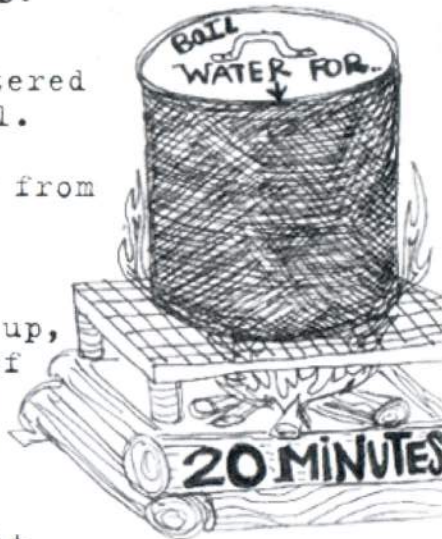
When filling water jugs it is important to first wash our hands, and never touch our container to the tap. "Don't touch your thing to the thing" This keeps us from getting sick.

It is also our responsibility to take care of the groundwater. We do not camp within 100 feet of any water. We dig our shitters, compost pits, and grey water pits at least 300 ft away.

To bathe, we take a bucket of water at least 300 feet from the water, and wash up where no soap can get back into the river. Even "biodegradable" soaps aren't good for the river.



PLEASE^{DO} NOT
USE SOAPS OR
Bathing Products
I OUR RIVERS
and Water Sources!



MEDICAL-INFO-

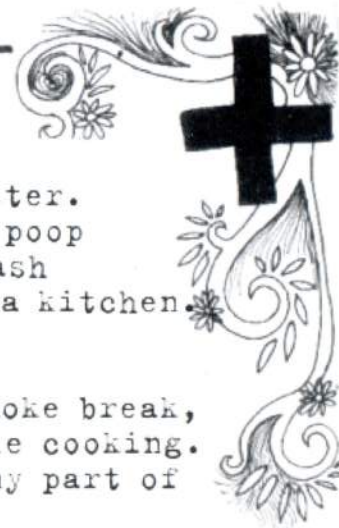
The way to stay the healthiest:
POOP ONLY IN SHITTERS

Wash our hands after using a shitter.
Wash our hands after burying dog poop
Wash our hands after carrying trash
Wash our hands when we walk into a kitchen.
Wash our hands before you eat
wash our hands before you cook
wash our hands after we take a smoke break,
or touch our clothes or hair while cooking.
Wash our hands before we touch any part of
the water setup.
"Washing hands" means to first do our best to
wash the soot and dirt off with soap and
water, then use 1% bleach water to sanitize.

If the only person this affected was the person with poor hygiene it wouldn't need to be said, but diseases can spread quickly in a group which shares resources. If we all take responsibility to help each other learn these healthy habits, it can really make the difference between a healthy, happy gathering or falling asleep at night to the sounds of vomiting friends.

If you are seriously sick or become injured, please contact CALM. People with medical training act as CALM and will provide medical care or contact outside help in case of medical emergency.

Please contact CALM before calling 911 unless it is a matter of life and death. CALM has often provided life-saving emergency treatment while waiting for emergency vehicles.

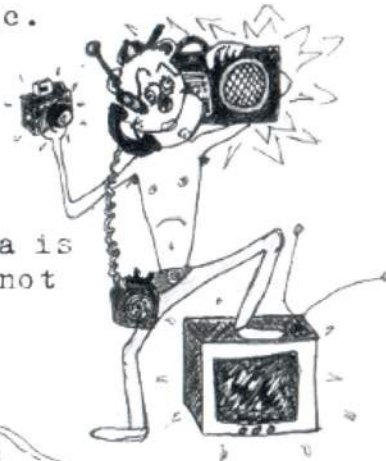


ELECTRONICS

Many people come into the woods to experience and enjoy nature. Traditionally there are no electronics used at gatherings besides short range radios for emergency communication. Phone calls and stereo music are kept in parking areas. To be respectful to each other we only play live, acoustic music.

Taking pictures of people without their permission is extremely rude!

Before taking a picture, make sure everyone in the area is aware and has an opportunity not to be involved.



ALCOHOL



Rainbow Gatherings are traditionally an alcohol-free environment.

Many people come here to take a break from drunkenness in others or themselves. Drinking openly in the woods is GREATLY DISCOURAGED. Walking around a gathering with alcohol on your person is a sure fire way to get a lot of people pissed off at you. Please keep booze off of trails, out of kitchens, and especially out of Main Circle.

Alcohol should stay in parking areas.



Circle

A circle of people forms in the main meadow before sundown, or 6 pm to eat a meal together. People hold hands and Om. After the Om everyone stays where they are and sits down in place to be served a vegetarian dinner. Pregnant women and parents with young children come to the center to be served first. Once the children have been fed the servers come around and give food to people sitting down in the circle. The Magic Hat is passed around the circle for monetary contributions. This currency is used to obtain food for Main Circle.



July 4th

On the Fourth of July, from daybreak until high noon, the camp is silent. There is no talking at all, and no playing of drums. It is a wonderful exercise in communication without words.

People gather in Main Meadow to meditate for world peace and the healing of the earth. This is a time of profound energy. The silence is broken with a resonant OM which continues until the Children's Parade enters the Circle, shortly before noon.

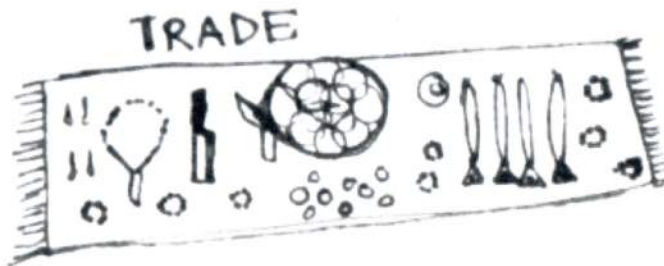
Please respect the morning silence. There is plenty of time in life for noise.



When we come together as family, we do not need to buy or sell from each other. If you need something, ask for it. If you have more of something than you need, share it.

Exchanging money in the National Forest could impede our right to peacably assemble.

If you have cash to spend, watch for the Magic Hat at main circle. The magic hat collects money at each circle, and every few days brings back literally tons of food to distribute among the kitchens who participate in feeding Main Circle. We can buy the most food if we give our donations to the Magic Hat when we first arrive.



Barter and the mutual exchange of crafts and like are encouraged. One thing exchanged for another thing, or for a service performed. Nothing is sold for cash.

Trading new, commercially produced goods is in bad taste. The gathering is for sharing hearts and works of our hands, not for making profit and all the runky energy that comes with doing this. There is a long-standing consensus that Trading Circle not be directly on the main trail, where the people it draws can block traffic on the trail. It is not in sight of Main Meadow.

Peacekeeping

Shanti Sena means peace keeper. We shout "Shanti Sena" only if we are in immediate physical danger. Although everyone is welcome, not all behaviors are. If someone is threatening or harassing you and will not leave you alone; if there is a forest fire, if you witness physical violence or physical harrassment. - These are good times to call for shante sena.

Shanti Sena is a serious tool and should not be taken lightly. Saying this should bring people running to make sure everyone is safe. Just walking away is your first and best solution to aggressive people.

Responding to a Shanti Sena call is all of our responsibility. However, it is best to check ourselves first. Are we sober, calm, and ready to listen non-judgementally? If it seems like a great day to kick somebody's ass, this call is not for us today.

Try to maintain and instill calmness. Encourage reasoned discussion without raising voices or making threats.

We respond with non-violent methods only. Talking is tried before physical restraint. This talking is with compassion and respect. If physical intervention can't be avoided, it is done gently without inflicting injury- to restrain, not defeat.