

# Camp Timbercrest Leave No Trace Educational Letterboxing Course

A Girl Scout Silver Award Project By Alexis Birkemeier and Cyrene Blackley

Welcome to your letterboxing course. During this time, you will earn three of five requirements for the letterboxer badge and learn about the 7 Leave No Trace Principles. In this course there will be no hitchhikers, parasites, cuckoo clues, or micro boxes. Please remember to hide all boxes better than you found it.

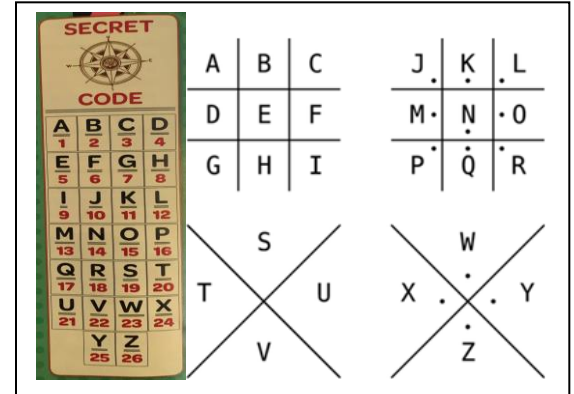
Definitions:

Hitchhiker: a letterbox hidden within another letterbox (when found the hitchhiker is moved to a third box)

Parasite: a letterbox within a hitchhiker (when found it is moved with the hitchhiker)

Cuckoo Clues: a clue to a letterbox hidden within a different letterbox

Micro boxes: very small letterboxes, great for urban hiding



**Box 1: Stay on the Path (Hike and Camp on Durable Surfaces)** Damage occurs when plants and other wildlife are trampled. Always stay on the designated trail. Go through the mud, not around it to help prevent the erosion of the path and spread of the mud.

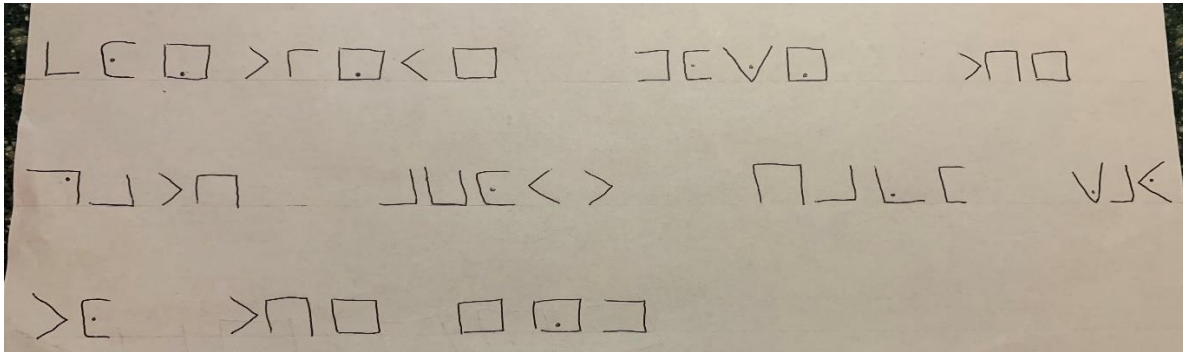
**Clue 1:** 19 20 1 18 20 15 14 20 8 5 18 15 1 4 2 5 8 9 14 4 14 21 18 19 5 19

3 1 2 9 14 1 14 4 23 1 12 11 20 15 23 1 18 4 19 20 8 5 21 14 9 20 19

Take orange trail on left. At fork go right, pass the sign. 1<sup>st</sup> trail marker on right has to box inside the roots(make sure to replace back in place so rain doesn't wash it away).

**Box 2: Plan Ahead and Prepare** In Leave No Trace Principles, it is important to plan ahead and prepare. Adequate trip planning and preparation helps backcountry travelers accomplish trip goals safely and enjoyably while minimizing damage to the land.

**Clue 2:**



Look on right for a tree on the hill with exposed roots. At bottom right hand end is the box hidden in the roots.

**Box 3: Respect Wildlife** Learn about wildlife through quiet observation. Do not disturb wildlife or plants just for a “better look.” Observe wildlife from a distance so they are not scared or forced to flee. Large groups often cause more damage to the environment and can disturb wildlife so keep your group small. If you have a larger group, divide into smaller groups if possible to minimize your impacts.

**Clue 3:** At bottom of incline, find trail marker tree. There is a hole in the trunk against ground. Box is there.

**Box 4: Take only picture, leave only footprints (Leave What You Find)** Allow others a sense of discovery by leaving rocks, plants, archaeological artifacts, and other objects of interest as you find them. Do not pick plants and flowers and leave animal nests alone.

**Clue 4:** Walk the path towards the bridge. Find trail marker on the left just before the bridge. In the woods behind the marker tree is a big pine tree. On the left is where u will find the box hidden amongst the roots.

**Box 5: Pack it in/Pack it Out (Dispose of Waste Properly)** Anything you bring in, you should take out with you. This includes any garbage you made while hiking or camping.

**Clue 5:** Cross the bridge. Just past the bridge on right are a number of rocks along the edge of the hill. In the first opening on the bottom most part in your box.

**Box 6: Be Considerate of Others** One of the most important components of outdoor ethics is to maintain courtesy toward other visitors. Excessive noise, uncontrolled pets, and damaged surroundings take away from the natural appeal of the outdoors.

**Clue 6:** As you come up the hill another path joins you. The big tree on the right after the paths merge has your box at the base behind the tree.

**Box 7: Minimize Campfire Impacts** The most important consideration when deciding to use a fire is the potential damage to the backcountry. Do NOT cut down trees or shrubs. Make your campfire in a designated fire circle/campfire area and keep it small.

**Clue 7:** Up the hill is a double trunked tree with a trail maker. Box is under exposed roots.