

# MOOP and the Cleansing Thereof

Now we move into the more specific aspects of the camp, and the event in general. This is a long one, and it's important.

Dust storms are coming to bury your MOOP!

(This is a bad thing, by the way, and the reason we rake.)

## MOOP = Matter Out Of Place

Moop is matter out of place, things which are not native to their immediate environment. In the desert, that is EVERYTHING.

Unless it's playa dust, it's MOOP.

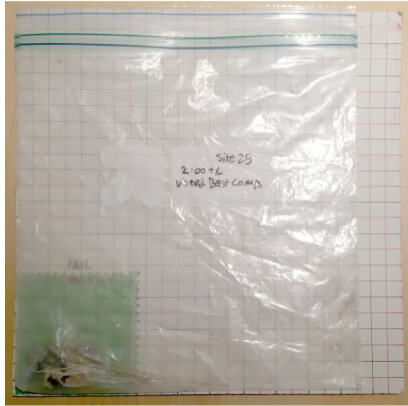
## The Inspection

Our survival as a camp, and the continuation of the event itself, is dependent upon a passing grade by the BLM's (Bureau of Land Management) inspection of the site.

The BLM inspection is comprised of 60 randomly generated GPS test points within the event.

- Allowable MOOP standard = 1 sq ft / acre
- 1 acre = 43560 sq. ft.
- BRC = 3603 sq acres. = 156 Million square feet.
- Each test point = 1/10th of an acre.
- Allowable MOOP per 1/10th acre test point = 3.8 inches square (3.8" x 3.8").

The inspection works like this. Nail a stake in the ground. Tie the end of a 38' long string (almost the length of the ship) to the stake. Use it to draw a circle 76' in diameter. (That's 1/10th of an acre.) Pick up every single hair, sequin, cigarette butt, potato chip crumb, bit of zip tie, dead cricket, and ground in noodle in that circle, and put it in a ziplock bag. Shake the contents into one corner, and place the bag on a 1/2" gridded page. To pass, it must be less than 3.8" x 3.8".



**VOTED BEST CAMP**  
**LOCATION: 2:00 & L**

**MOOP < 3.8"sq = PASS**

Green square = pass. Any larger = fail.

For more information, see:

- [MOOP Map 2017](#) in the Burning Man Journal
- The [Leave No Trace Guide](#) on BurningMan.org

## The Camp

So, Playa Pete's Plaza's place in all this.

2015 and 2016 were the only two times in the history of the camp that we weren't green. If you Facebook, you probably saw the uproar that occurs when we get a yellow designation. There was loads of finger pointing, and 'not my fault' shit all over the place. We made an effort to fix that last year through education, and more official team creation. Our LNT team KICKED ASS, by the way! And continues to do so, year after year after year. 2017 and 2018 were epic!

First off, it IS your responsibility. AND it's my responsibility. It's our responsibility to Leave No Trace, and it's our responsibility to educate one another.

We as campers are responsible for every spec of MOOP within our camp, on our adjacent roads, and within the perimeter of the entire event. When we get a yellow designation, it is our responsibility both individually and as a group. If you see something, pick it up. If you see something leaking, fix it. If you see someone carelessly dropping anything on the ground, stop them, preferably before it even hits the ground.

Playa Pete, Captain Greg, Ttractor, and all the old burners take our green designation very very seriously. It's not just a point of pride. If we fuck up, the BMOrg could choose to not place us. If we're not placed, that is, if we don't receive a designated area to camp, we don't get early entry, we have to fight the crowds coming in, and we won't be able to land grab enough space to camp together. Honestly, if we aren't placed, I doubt the ship would go. It's just too much work.

So, in addition to LNT being the right attitude to take in life, it can also be seen as a completely self-serving practice. If we, as a camp and as a community, do not pass our LNT inspections, we may not be placed, and the event may not receive its permit.

In summary:

- We are all responsible for all of it all the time.
- If you see something, pick it up, or deal with it immediately. It IS your problem.
- De-MOOP constantly. Both inside and outside the camp. That empty beer can you see on my bike is typically full of MOOP, including an increasing number of cigarette butts.
- Help others understand LNT, and what they can do to help.

Our Leader of LNT has created a more specific and comprehensive document, that will be posted later this summer. Stay tuned.

## **Bigger MOOP**

### **Water**

Grey water is MOOP, and cannot be poured onto the ground.

Water coming out of a cooler dedicated to ice and canned beverages, without any possible means of contamination by paper labels, food, or anything else that's not clean water, may be sprinkled onto the roads, but not in camp. If you don't know what 'sprinkle' means, ask. If you're leaving town and have extra clean, potable water, let us know, and we'll take care of it. All other water is suspect, and must be taken offsite.

- Do NOT dump ANY water within the confines of camp. Not your grey water. Not the dregs of a wine cooler. Not your too-hot-to-drink clean water. No dumping within the camp perimeter. Water stains cause yellow MOOP maps.
- Do not dispose of any food infested grey water anywhere within the event. Seriously.
- Do not brush your teeth and spit on the ground. Do not ignore or inadequately address any trailer or vehicle leaks. Do not allow your clean water to run in an unbroken stream onto the ground.

Greg and the camp very generously provide a means for you to shower, and for the shower's grey water to be collected and transported off site. All other water is your responsibility.

- Nothing goes into the shower's grey water tank that didn't come out of the shower's clean water tank (except soap, of course). Do NOT pee in the shower. Don't brush your teeth in the shower. Don't shave in the shower. Simply shower in the shower. The shower is a gift from Greg and the crew, which may be revoked without warning.
- Do NOT put any other water in the grey water disposal tank for the shower, or dump any other water down the shower. We have limited capacity for water, and limited tolerance for others' filth.

## Recycling

We have a Recycling team, which helps you to more easily manage your aluminum cans and plastic beverage bottles. You are responsible for hauling any other recycle-able materials you produce offsite. We collect ONLY plastic bottles and beverage cans, which Al then takes home with him as a donation for the San Diego Maritime Museum.

The camp creates:

- A centralized location, where everyone can bring their plastic bottles and cans.
- A team of volunteers who monitor this centralized location, keeping it clean and tidy.
- A document that serves as a guide to future us, as well as current us, on how this all works.

We do NOT recycle glass or cardboard or paper, or any other thing that might be recycled at home. We ONLY recycle drink cans and plastic bottles. Everything else is trash, and your responsibility.

Which brings us to the last item: Trash.

## Trash

You are responsible for hauling out your own trash. Every last tiny little bit of it. The trash cans you see scattered around camp are not for public use. They are exclusively for the use of those campers who placed them there. DO NOT use these receptacles as your own. They're not yours.

Because we run a bar, and provide a viewing tower, we ask campers who can to please haul an extra bag of trash with them when they leave. It's pretty astonishing what people will leave behind when they travel on our ship, or visit our camp. We need to take it with us when we go.

## Summary

Dust storms are coming to bury your MOOP! Pick that shit up!

That's it! Thanks for reading clear through to the end. I realize that it's getting a little preachy now, but at 120 campers and growing, it's time to double down.