



# THE WILDLANDS CONSERVANCY PIONEERTOWN MOUNTAINS PRESERVE

## Chaperone Guidelines

**We appreciate your participation as a chaperone during the upcoming fieldtrip to Pioneertown Mountains Preserve.**

### Participation

Chaperones have a vital role to play during the field trip. You will be asked to be the “sweep” during the walk, which means you will be the last in the group and will help make sure that none of the students trail behind or stray from the group, as well as help staff maintain order. Be prepared for a hike of approximately 1-1 ½ miles. As our time on trail is devoted to exploring the natural world, please do not distract your own or other children by talking on your cell phone or with other chaperones.

### Clothing

Please dress for a day of outdoor activities. We recommend long pants unless it is very warm, sturdy closed-toe walking shoes and an extra layer of clothing for cool mornings and sudden changes in the weather. During the winter months a raincoat or jacket, gloves and a scarf are also recommended.

### Cameras

You may take photographs during the program, but please do not distract the students or the naturalists from the activities.

### Pack it In – Pack it Out

Pioneertown Mountains Preserve borders a large wilderness that supports diverse wildlife. All visitors are asked to practice Leave No Trace principles, including packing out all trash. Please help us make sure that students leave lunch areas free of all food and container waste. Trash endangers the health of the river and wildlife.

### Water

Hiking outdoors can easily lead to dehydration. Be sure to bring a large, full water bottle or a canteen.

### Cigarettes

Due to the high risk of brush fires on the Preserve, we do not have a designated smoking area. If you need to smoke during the fieldtrip, you may do so only in your own vehicle in the parking lot outside the gate and away from dry grass and brush.

### Cell Phones

All students and chaperones are asked to leave cell phones on the bus (with the exception of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade program), as there is no reception in the canyon. In case of emergency, we will direct you to the office phone.

**If you have any questions, please call our office at (760) 369-7105.**

