

# THE 10 PRINCIPLES

A SET OF COMMONLY UNDERSTOOD  
VALUES REFLECTED IN THE BURNING MAN EXPERIENCE

## **RADICAL INCLUSION:**

Anyone may be a part of Burning Man. We welcome and respect the stranger. No prerequisites exist for participation in our community.

## **GIFTING:**

Burning Man is devoted to acts of gift-giving. The value of a gift is unconditional. Gifting does not contemplate a return or an exchange for something of equal value.

## **DECOMMODIFICATION:**

In order to preserve the spirit of gifting, our community seeks to create social environments that are unmediated by commercial sponsorships, transactions, or advertising. We stand ready to protect our culture from such exploitation. We resist the substitution of consumption for participatory experience.

## **RADICAL SELF-RELIANCE:**

Burning Man encourages the individual to discover, exercise, and rely on his or her inner resources.

## **RADICAL SELF-EXPRESSION:**

Radical self-expression arises from the unique gifts of the individual. No one other than the individual or a collaborating group can determine its content. It is offered as a gift to others. In this spirit, the giver should respect the rights and liberties of the recipient.

## **COMMUNAL EFFORT:**

Our community values creative cooperation and collaboration. We strive to produce, promote, and protect social networks, public spaces, works of art, and methods of communication that support such interaction.

## **CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY:**

We value civil society. Community members who organize events should assume responsibility for public welfare and endeavor to communicate civic responsibilities to participants. They must also assume responsibility for conducting events in accordance with local, state, and federal laws.

## **LEAVING NO TRACE:**

Our community respects the environment. We are committed to leaving no physical trace of our activities wherever we gather. We clean up after ourselves and endeavor, whenever possible, to leave such places in a better state than when we found them.

## **PARTICIPATION:**

Our community is committed to a radically participatory ethic. We believe that transformative change, whether in the individual or in society, can occur only through the medium of deeply personal participation. We achieve being through doing. Everyone is invited to work. Everyone is invited to play. We make the world real through actions that open the heart.

## **IMMEDIACY:**

Immediate experience is, in many ways, the most important touchstone of value in our culture. We seek to overcome barriers that stand between us and a recognition of our inner selves, the reality of those around us, participation in society, and contact with a natural world exceeding human powers. No idea can substitute for this experience.

BURNING MAN  
2019

# SURVIVAL GUIDE



# METAMORPHOSES

BLACK ROCK CITY is built in Nevada's beautiful, remote and inhospitable Black Rock Desert. Burning Man is not a festival. It is an event, a community, and a global cultural movement. In Black Rock City you are responsible for your own survival, safety, and well-being. You are invited to collaborate, be inclusive, creative, connective, and to Leave No Trace. This Survival Guide is **essential reading** for every participant — read it carefully! For more detail, check out the Preparation section of the Burning Man website.

AUGUST 25 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2019

# The BURNING ESSENTIALS

YOU ARE LEGALLY BOUND  
TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK  
OF YOUR TICKET.



- 1 PARTICIPATE:** Unlike other events, Burning Man is created by the people who attend — that means YOU!
- 2 LEAVE NO TRACE:** There are no trash cans in BRC. You must take out everything you bring in.
- 3 PORTOS:** Nothing goes in the portable toilets except human waste and 1-ply toilet tissue. If it wasn't in your body, don't put it in the potty!
- 4 COMMERCE:** BRC is based on a Gifting economy — marketing, product promotion, and commercial activity are not welcome here. See pages 4, 5, & 12.
- 5 TRANSIT:** Walking and bike riding are the chosen modes of transit in Black Rock City. Except for public agencies, specially-marked service vehicles and those licensed by the Department of Mutant Vehicles, NO cars, motorcycles, motor-scooters, ATVs, golf carts or go-carts are allowed to drive in our city or on the open playa around it. See page 7.
- 6 PERSONAL SAFETY:** The Black Rock Desert is a harsh and challenging environment; you are responsible for your own safety. Nights on the playa are dark — illuminate yourself, your bike, and your artwork. See page 11.
- 7 FIRE:** Participants using fire effects or burning their artwork must follow our Fire Art Safety Guidelines. Structures must be 20 feet from anything burning (including burn barrels). Aerial flares, rockets, explosives and fireworks are prohibited. Keep at least one ABC fire extinguisher in a central, visible location in each camp and one in each camper or trailer. No fires of any kind are allowed on the unprotected playa surface. See page 9.
- 8 SOUND:** Be a considerate neighbor! Large-scale sound zones are along the 2:00 & 10:00 streets. Mutant Vehicles with sound systems must follow the Sound Policy. If you don't, Mutant Vehicle operators may lose their MV license and the right to drive the vehicle for the rest of the event. See page 15.
- 9 LAWS:** The Black Rock Desert is federal land, and Black Rock City is subject to local, state and federal laws, including those relating to controlled substances. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Pershing County Sheriff's Office patrol BRC. You risk being cited, arrested and/or evicted if you break the law. Burning Man Project does not promote or condone illegal activity of any kind. See page 16.
- 10 FIREARMS & LASERS:** The possession of firearms (including BB guns, air rifles and paintball guns) is prohibited in Black Rock City. Hand-held lasers are also prohibited.
- 11 TICKETS & VEHICLE PASSES:** Participants MUST purchase vehicle passes and tickets prior to arrival. All vehicles driven into Black Rock City must display a valid vehicle pass. All tickets are subject to the 9% Nevada Live Entertainment Tax. If you need to make a payment on-site, please be prepared to do so with a credit card. Will Call closes on Saturday, August 31, at noon.
- 12 EVENT ENTRY:** Our Gate opens at 12:01 am Sunday, August 25. No one under 18 will be admitted without a parent or guardian. Anyone caught harboring stowaways faces citation, ejection from the event, and/or having their tickets voided.

BLACK ROCK  
CITY BELONGS  
TO ALL OF US

YOU DID IT!  
YOU'RE GOING TO BLACK ROCK CITY!  
BEING A CITIZEN OF BLACK ROCK CITY  
MEANS ENGAGING AND INVESTING IN  
THE EXPERIENCE YOU CREATE FOR  
YOURSELF AND THOSE AROUND YOU.

FOR MAP &  
DIRECTIONS TO  
BLACK ROCK  
CITY, SEE THE  
BACK COVER.

# ARRIVING

MAKE SURE YOUR VEHICLE (AND WHATEVER YOU ARE TOWING) HAS A CURRENT REGISTRATION STICKER, AN UNOBSTRUCTED REAR LICENSE PLATE, WORKING HEADLIGHTS, TAIL LIGHTS, A LICENSE PLATE LIGHT, AND BRAKE LIGHTS. HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE AND CURRENT INSURANCE.

## WHEN YOU ARRIVE

The speed limit on Gate Road is 10 MPH. Speeding causes traffic stops, citations, deep ruts in the playa, and dust, which is a safety hazard. Tune in to Gate Advisory Radio Station 95.1 FM for Gate updates (BMIR at 94.5 FM for event info).

Tickets will not be sold at the Gate. If you are at the Gate without a ticket and you do not have one held for you at Will Call at the Box Office, you will be told to leave or risk citation from the BLM. If you don't have a ticket, do not show up at the event or in Gerlach looking for tickets.

All vehicles except motorcycles, require a vehicle pass. These need to be purchased and displayed in your windshield ahead of time. Go to the [Ticketing](#) website for more info.

Stay in your vehicle. If you need to go to the Box Office to pick up a Will Call ticket, your entire vehicle must go with you. Don't risk losing your friends (yes, it happens).

All lanes have access to the Will Call parking lot for Box Office. About 1/4 mile before you reach the Gate, you will come to a set of small kiosks. There will be Gate staff here to direct you to the Will Call lot if you or someone in your vehicle needs to pick up a Will Call ticket at Box Office. Return to your vehicle and proceed to the Main Gate.

For everyone's safety, do not drive faster than 5 MPH while inside the Will Call lot and the Main Gate areas.

## NO EARLY ARRIVALS

If you arrive in the hours before 12:01 am on Sunday, August 25, please DO NOT wait on the side of the road along Hwy 447, CR 34 or in Gerlach or Empire. Your best option is to proceed down Gate Road and park in the Staging Lot. This will give you an opportunity to rest, stretch your legs, retrieve Will Call tickets from the Box Office, ponder the vagaries of life and meet your neighbors. You will not be penalized for arriving early. (You also don't get in any earlier.)

Before the Gate officially opens, a special Strike Team is dispatched to open up extra lanes to process vehicles in the Staging lot. This highly experienced team of Gate staff will quickly check your tickets, search your vehicle, and route you back onto Gate Road.

Please remember that you will need to drive again before you arrive in Black Rock City, and that law enforcement patrols Gate Road.

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

YOU MAY BE DENIED ENTRY IF YOU BRING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

Explosives, aerial flares, rockets and fireworks



Firearms of any kind including BB guns, air rifles and paintball guns



Hand-held lasers (all other lasers must be registered)



Items that cause MOOP: wood chips, loose feathers, tubs of confetti, etc.



Anything that will break up and/or blow away in the wind



Unregistered Mutant Vehicles



Plants, living or dead



ATVs and scooters



Motorcycles that are not a participant's transportation to BRC



Animals

## CULTURAL COURSE CORRECTING

Recent challenges are threatening the fabric of our community: people using photos from Black Rock City to promote products and businesses, exclusivity on mutant vehicles and in theme camps, issues with Matter Out of Place (MOOP), and participants showing up not prepared to live in a harsh desert environment or not prepared to contribute.

We must work together to preserve and protect the ethos that defines Burning Man and sets it apart from music festivals and other mass-produced events. Whether it's your first time in BRC, or you haven't gotten the playa dust out of your fun fur coats from the past 20 years, **we need your help.**

The future of the event depends on this, and on you. Do your part!

## PUT YOUR PHONE AWAY

Immediacy is one of the 10 Principles and key to the Burning Man experience. We seek to remove barriers that stand between ourselves and what's around us, including our fellow citizens and the natural world. In today's highly connected world, we can all benefit from taking one week to unplug and **be fully present.**



LIKE ANY  
METROPOLIS. BLACK  
ROCK CITY HAS



ESSENTIAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE &  
COMMUNITY SERVICES.

# BLACK ROCK CITY INFRASTRUCTURE

## ON PLAYA RESOURCES

### ICE

Ice is sold at Arctica in Center Camp, and in the 3:00+G and 9:00+G plazas on G. During the event, Monday to Saturday hours are 9 am to 6 pm, Sunday noon to 6 pm and Exodus Monday in Center Camp only from 9 am to noon. Ice is available in crushed or blocks for \$4/bag. Pre-event, ice is available at two locations. Center Camp Arctica: Thursday through Sunday from noon to 6 pm. Ice 9 (9:00 and G): Saturday and Sunday pre-event from noon to 6 pm.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

If you need law enforcement assistance please wave down a patrol unit, find a Black Rock Ranger who will help you contact law enforcement, or visit the law enforcement substation at 5:15 and Esplanade. The station is open 24/7 during the event and is staffed by BLM and the Pershing County Sheriff's Office.

### INFORMATION

Playa Info in Center Camp is staffed by knowledgeable volunteers ready to answer your questions 9 am to 6 pm, unless otherwise posted. You can use the Playa Info Directory 24/7 to register yourself and your camp location and look up friends, or find and post theme camp locations, event schedules, rideshares, services, and information. **Note: there is no Internet access.** Playa Info's large BRC map shows theme camp locations, and bulletin boards are available for posting events, messages, and general information.

### EARTH GUARDIANS

Earth Guardians inspire Burners to embrace Leaving No Trace and live more sustainably on and off the playa. If you have questions about sustainable camping or the Black Rock National Conservation Area, visit Earth Guardians on the Esplanade or check out their website at [www.earthguardians.net](http://www.earthguardians.net).

### CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES

Black Rock City can be a hyper-stimulating place. If you're feeling overwhelmed, trained counselors from the Zendo Project and the Green Dot team of the Black Rock Rangers are there to support you. If it's a crisis, the Emergency Services Department's Crisis Intervention team is there, too. The Zendo Project facilities are entirely run by participants and are located at Esplanade and 5:45, between Rangers and BMIR.

### BMIR 94.5 FM

Burning Man Information Radio (BMIR) 94.5 FM broadcasts travel, emergency and general information, and community programming 24 hours a day. BMIR will also be available on mobile devices via [iHeartRadio.com](http://iHeartRadio.com), providing traffic reports at the top of the hour during entry and Exodus. Stop by BMIR between 12 pm and 4 pm daily to record promos for your events and happenings... tell the city what you're up to!

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Black Rock City Emergency Services Department (ESD) personnel wear yellow shirts labeled "Emergency Services" and feature the ESD logo on their uniforms and vehicles. They provide BRC with firefighting, emergency medical, and crisis intervention services. ESD is not part of any law enforcement or outside agency. Medical Stations are located on the Esplanade at 5:15, behind the plazas at 3:00+C, 9:00+C, 4:30+H, and 7:30+H, and out on the playa between the Temple and the Man.

### DON'T SHIP PACKAGES TO THE BURNING MAN OFFICE IN GERLACH

If you need a package delivered to Gerlach via USPS, you can send it via General Delivery, Gerlach, NV 89412. Burning Man has no way to deliver USPS, FedEx, or UPS packages to participants on playa. Any participant packages sent to the Gerlach Burning Man office or post office box will be returned.

Lost & Found does not accept bikes! Please leave them where you found them. After the event, whether you have lost or found something, email [lostandfound@burningman.org](mailto:lostandfound@burningman.org).



## Burning Man

# 365

## Days a Year

The nonprofit Burning Man Project supports and nurtures participants around the world who engage in initiatives and projects inspired by the Burning Man ethos and the 10 Principles. To learn more about Burning Man Project, Burners Without Borders, Fly Ranch, and the Burning Man Regional Network, visit the Everywhere Pavilion near 6:20 on the Esplanade (space shared with the ARTery).

### LOST & FOUND: LABEL IT!

The best way to increase the chances of having a lost item reunited with you is to mark your possessions, especially your cell phone, with your name, phone number, email address, and camp location. Take a picture of your contact info and leave the image on your camera or cell phone. If you find something in Black Rock City, bring it to Lost & Found at Playa Info.

### VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is a great way to step up your participation, and there are ample opportunities to get involved. Visit the V-Spot in the Center Camp Portal to learn more.

### PRESS & MEDIA

Any commercial, editorial, or otherwise non-personal use of photos, video, or sound recordings is not permitted without prior written permission from Burning Man Project. All media professionals with intent to distribute content publicly (including art galleries, publications, or blogs) must register as professional media prior to the event and check in at Media Mecca. Participants sharing images for personal use are not required to register, but still must adhere to the Photo and Video Rights & Responsibilities and Burning Man Project's ticket terms and conditions. Questions? Visit Media Mecca at Center Camp, [burningman.org/press](http://burningman.org/press) or write [press@burningman.org](mailto:press@burningman.org) for more info.

### CENTER CAMP CAFE

The Café is our community gathering space. Coffee, tea, and other nonalcoholic beverages are available for purchase, and your fellow citizens provide a wide variety of on-stage entertainment. It's always a bustling place, 24 hours a day with beverages available from Sunday at 7 pm through Monday at 11 am!

### AIRPORT & PILOT POLICIES

Black Rock City Municipal Airport is a temporary, private airport (FAA identifier 88NV). The Airport is operational from 6 am to 6 pm daily during the event. Passenger drop-offs and pick-ups are prohibited except by Mutant Vehicle or Airport Shuttle. Do not drive your vehicle to the Airport. Do not leave bikes at the Airport. To find the Airport, take 5:00 to L and follow the signs toward Point 5. Pilots wishing to fly to BRC must land at 88NV and comply with all Airport rules. All pilots must pre-register at [airport.burningman.org](http://airport.burningman.org). All aircraft occupants must have a valid Burning Man ticket and pay the \$60 per-person airport use fee. Will Call tickets can be picked up at the Airport between 7 am and 7 pm.

### TELEPHONE SERVICE

In the interest of Immediacy (see the 10 Principles), cell phone and internet use is highly discouraged in BRC. Limited cell service and public telephones are available in the town of Gerlach, 12 miles away.

### BURN GARDENS

Metal platforms for burning wood are located at Esplanade and 3:00, 6:00, and 9:00. From Sunday, September 1, at 10 am through Tuesday, September 3, Gardens will be available for wood burning as well as donations of new and unused lumber. Wood only! No burning cardboard, paper, compost, recycling, or trash. Burning toxic and/or synthetic materials such as couches, stuffed furniture, rugs, PVC pipes, etc. is prohibited by law.

### RECYCLE CAMP

Pre-crush and sort your empty aluminum cans into a mesh bag (so they dry out!), then bring them to Recycle Camp between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday through Sunday, directly behind the Center Camp Café at 6:00. Come ride the CRUSHINATOR, our state of the ART bicycle-powered aluminum can crushing machine. Come by early (don't wait until the last day!), come by often (we have great fun!), but by all means come before 5 pm Sunday, or you'll have to pack them out yourself. No plastic, tin, or steel please. All proceeds donated to Gerlach schools.

### CARPPOOLING

Looking for transportation to the event? Consider carpooling and ride-sharing. Carpooling is a great option for those with extra space and is an easy way to share costs. Burner Express buses come from Reno and San Francisco directly to the playa. Visit [burningman.org/travel](http://burningman.org/travel).

### IN AND OUT FEE

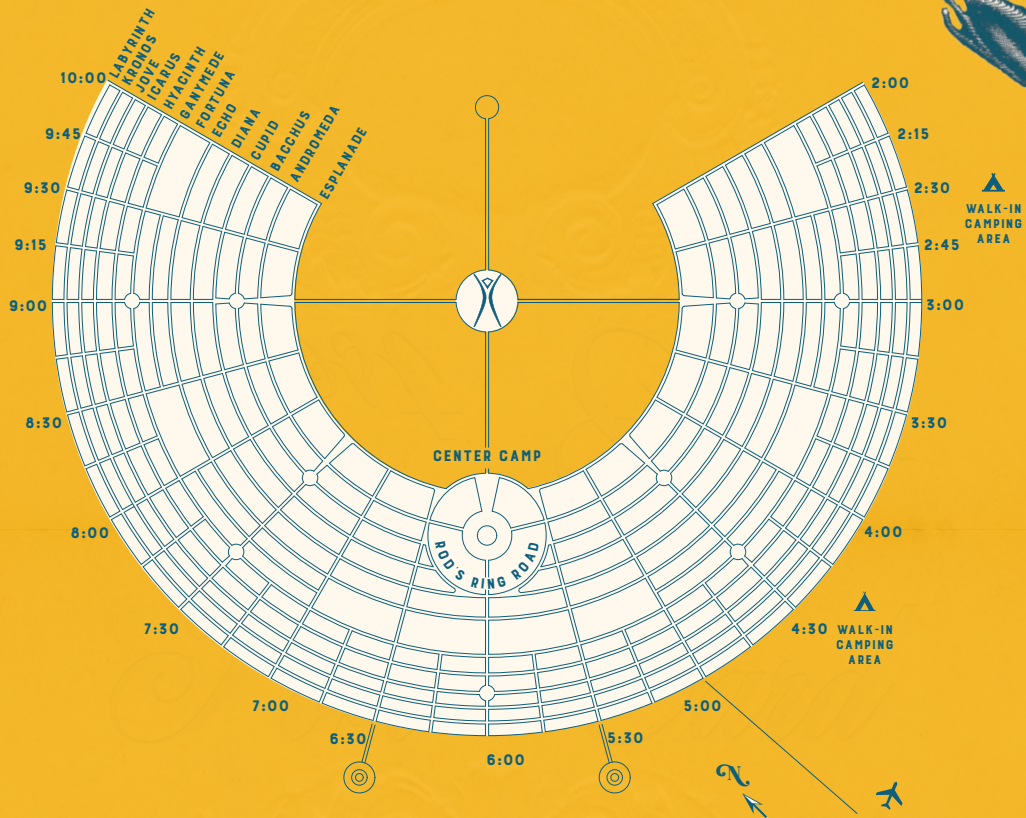
Casual traffic in and out of BRC is strongly discouraged. Participants who leave and return are required to pay a \$20 per person fee.

### IT'S YOUR TASK TO ASK!

It is your responsibility to ask for consent before taking a photograph.



# BLACK ROCK CITY PLAN



## 2019 CITY PLAN

BRC consists of the main camping area formed by a series of concentric and radial streets, and an "open playa" reserved for art installations. BLM establishes a buffer zone on the playa around the event site — no camping is allowed in this area. The 2019 BRC plan is available at [burningman.org/event/black-rock-city-guide/](http://burningman.org/event/black-rock-city-guide/). You will receive a BRC map at Greeter's station when you arrive.

## PLAZAS

Plazas are located at 3:00, 4:30, 7:30 & 9:00 on B + G Streets, and on I Street at 6:00. These are mini civic centers and public gathering spaces with art installations, encircled by creative and inviting theme camps and service camps. Emergency Services are located behind the plazas at 3:00+C, 9:00+C, 4:30+H, and 7:30+H, and Black Rock Ranger Outposts are located behind the 3:00 and 9:00 plazas. Arctica ice sales are stationed at 3:00+G and 9:00+G plazas.

## WALK-IN CAMPING

A large area past L Street between 2:00 and 5:00 is reserved for walk-in camping. Camp without cars! No vehicles or RVs are allowed. You must leave your vehicle along L street and carry your belongings to your chosen spot. The sheer difficulty of this exercise keeps Walk-In Camping sparsely populated, and your efforts will be rewarded with a sense of solitude unavailable in other parts of the city.

## PORTA-POTTIES

Banks of porta-potties can be found throughout the city on radial streets on the blocks between C & D and H & I. The exceptions to this are 6:00, which has banks between F & G, and I & J, and 3:00 and 9:00, which have banks between D & E. There are also banks on the open playa on either side of the Man along 2:00 and 10:00, and out by the Temple. To help you find potties in your time of need, they are marked by solar-powered light poles topped with blue lights.



# GETTING AROUND

Black Rock City is a walking and bike-friendly community. You must park your vehicle at your campsite and leave it there while you are in Black Rock City. Only public agency vehicles, specially marked BRC department service vehicles, and vehicles licensed by the Department of Mutant Vehicles (DMV) are allowed to drive in Black Rock City or on the open playa. Any non-mutated vehicles intended for recreational driving, including motorcycles, large scooters, golf carts, and ATVs, are NOT permitted and will be impounded at the Gate.

## MUTANT VEHICLES & THE DMV

Mutant Vehicle drivers, and those requiring a Disabled Persons Vehicle license, must pre-register with the DMV. Mutant Vehicles must meet certain criteria to be licensed. All registrations take place pre-event. You are required to show your acceptance letter to Gate staff upon entering BRC. Those not pre-approved will not be let into BRC! Mutant Vehicles must also comply with the Sound Policy posted on the Burning Man website.

## DRIVING SAFETY

The speed limit in BRC is 5 mph at all times — that's reeeaaaally slow. Pedestrians and bicycles have the right of way over motor vehicles. Mutant Vehicle artists, operators, and passengers must comply with safety standards, including physical and mechanical integrity of vehicles and adherence to driving rules. **Passengers may only get on or off a vehicle that is completely stopped.** Vehicles are prohibited from driving on: the Esplanade, A Street, the promenades from the city to the Man and the Temple, and inside the perimeter around the Man

## ELECTRIC-ASSIST BIKES

Electric-assist bikes are allowed on playa, but you must obey the 5 mph vehicle speed limit and they must conform to all specifications of Nevada state law.

## PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES

Personal Transportation Vehicles are subject to the same rules as any other motorized vehicles, including the 5 mph speed limit and use of front and rear lights at night. BLM Rangers will issue citations for noncompliance. Please review the complete list of allowed and disallowed vehicles on the Burning Man website.

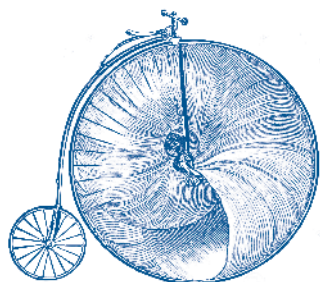
Powered vehicle not on the "Allowed PTVs list" may not be brought to Black Rock City. This includes many electric or gas scooters. If you bring a disallowed PTV to Black Rock City, you will be required to take it off playa before you will be allowed to enter. If a disallowed PTV is found inside the city, you will be required to take it off playa. Operating a disallowed PTV at Burning Man can result in the vehicle and its owner being ejected from the event.

## MOTORCYCLES

Motorcycles are only allowed in Black Rock City if they were your sole means of transportation to BRC, and must be parked at your campsite for the duration of your stay. Participants bringing motorcycles that aren't their sole means of transportation will be asked to turn around at the Gate.

# HAPPY BICYCLING

Bikes are an integral part of our culture. Our city was designed for walking and biking. The playa is very dark at night and there are many riders. Light your bike to avoid injuring yourself and others. Please do not bring bikes, chairs, or large coolers to the larger burns, where they can pose a serious hazard.



## LOCK & DECORATE YOUR BIKE!

If you don't want your bike stolen on the playa, always lock it wherever you leave it. The only bikes that should never be locked are green Community Bikes. Never lock your bike to guy wires on the Café, art pieces, or any other structures. This is a safety hazard and may disrupt performances and scheduled burns.

Your bike is much less likely to be "borrowed without asking" if you decorate it. Make sure decorations are securely affixed so they don't become MOOP.





# LEAVE NO TRACE

## THE BLACK ROCK DESERT IS A PLACE UNLIKE ANY OTHER

— a wide expanse of possibility set in the heart of one of the most scenic, culturally rich, scientifically important and yet least-known public lands in the country. The Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area is part of the nation's prized National Conservation Lands, a special designation given by the U.S. Government. We are grateful for this stunningly beautiful location and are equally committed to respecting and protecting this special place.

**Burning Man is the largest Leave No Trace (LNT) event in the world.** There is no garbage collection service in BRC. It is up to all of us to remove all Matter Out of Place (MOOP) from Black Rock City. Our permit with BLM allows us a short

period of time to restore the playa to its original condition. We can only satisfy BLM stipulations and pass inspection if ALL citizens share the responsibility to line-sweep their camps and the city.

Burning Man has a volunteer-led environmental compliance and LNT outreach team. This group of Earth Guardians and Black Rock Rangers educates and helps participants fix common environmental issues such as vehicle oil leaks and wastewater spills. **Help us help you.** If our team finds an issue, you'll be given a limited amount of time to fix it. You may face a citation or eviction if you don't address oil and wastewater spills. If you need help, visit the Black Rock Rangers and Earth Guardians.

## PLAN AHEAD TO LEAVE NO TRACE

- \* The following items are most likely to become MOOP: loose glitter, feathers, Astroturf, styrofoam coolers, plastic bags, paper, string, disposable drink cups, hay bales, straw, gravel — or anything that can blow away in the wind.
- \* If you must buy single-serving drinks, choose aluminum cans over glass bottles. Aluminum cans can be recycled at Recycle Camp.
- \* Carry a MOOP bag everywhere you go — to deep playa, art pieces, dance floors — LNT applies to the entire playa, not just your camp.
- \* If you smoke, bring a mint tin to collect cigarette butts and ashes (yes, ash is MOOP).
- \* Kitchens, construction areas and workspaces generate the most MOOP. Packing a tarp to lay down in those areas can save a lot of clean-up time.
- \* Rope and other tie downs are required for securing everything in your camp and for strapping anything on top of your vehicle for the trip to or from the playa.
- \* A plastic milk or water jug with a handle is ideal for collecting MOOP around your camp (which you should do throughout the week).
- \* Showers are great on the playa, but remember to bring a small inflatable swimming pool or other water containment device. Shower water is gray water and not allowed to hit the playa.
- \* Don't want to haul gray water home? You have options! The Playa Living section of our website has great ideas for properly dealing with gray water.
- \* Want more tips? Check out the Earth Guardians' tips for keeping Burning Man clean and green.





## PREVENT MOOP

- \* Never let it hit the ground! Don't leave cigarette butts, ashtrays, bottles or cans lying around where they can blow away.
- \* Manage waste throughout the event. Sort your trash. Crush your cans. Separate food waste and dry it in a mesh bag in the sun.
- \* MOOP attracts more MOOP. If you see trash on the ground in BRC, pick it up — the dust quickly makes it hard to spot.
- \* MOOP sweeps. Get your campmates together and line up everyone arms-width apart along your camp boundary and walk from one side of the camp to the other, picking up any MOOP you see along the way. Do this before you set up camp, during and after the event. Your area should look cleaner than when you got there.
- \* WOOD IS MOOP! Wood is the #1 MOOP issue in Black Rock City. Wood from sawdust, splinters, wood debris and firewood bark poses a major MOOP problem. Lay down a tarp or rug under your wood cutting stations and firewood storage areas.
- \* If you plan to use a burn barrel, bring a shovel and metal containers to scoop up and remove ashes. All burn barrels must be elevated 10" off the playa surface to prevent burn scars.

## BEFORE YOU LEAVE

- \* Line-sweep your camp. Walk shoulder-to-shoulder with your campmates and clean your campsite in a grid pattern. Pick up EVERYTHING. Use a magnet bar or a rake to go over your entire camp and conduct a final sweep.
- \* Community Clean-Up. As a citizen of BRC, we ask you to join your neighbors on Sunday and Monday after the Burn for two hours of community MOOPing in addition to your own camp clean up. Pick a well-traveled area. The Earth Guardians in Center Camp can direct you to a cleanup project.
- \* Cover and secure your load! Pack carefully and make sure trash and other items do not blow off and litter our highways.

## ON YOUR WAY HOME

Leave No Trace does not end when you hit the pavement. **Do not dump your trash in neighboring communities!** See page 19 for waste and recycling locations.

## ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Burning Man Project believes in protecting the environment and making the event more sustainable, and we need your help to make that happen! Think of ways to lessen your camp's impact BEFORE you get to Black Rock City. De-MOOP your stuff, conserve fuel, use solar-powered batteries. The Leaving No Trace section of the Burning Man website is a treasure trove of tips for practicing the six R's: Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Respect and Restore! Visit [burningman.org/event/preparation/leaving-no-trace/greening-your-burn/](http://burningman.org/event/preparation/leaving-no-trace/greening-your-burn/).

## ON PLAYA

### CHECK UNDER YOUR VEHICLE FOR OIL LEAKS

Engine fluid leaks are common, especially in older vehicles and RVs. Check under your vehicle daily. If your vehicle is leaking, use a drip pan, tarp, rug, plywood, or anything that can be secured to the ground to catch the fluids.

### WASTE WATER

If you have a wastewater spill and the contaminated playa fits in a five-gallon bucket, dig up the soil and dispose of the bucket's contents off site. If it's too much for a bucket, call a Black Rock Ranger to contact our Hazmat team to help remediate the site.

### BURN SCARS

A burn scar is a discoloration of the surface soil due to fire. They can last for years and bumps, which are hazardous to vehicles. It's your responsibility to prevent them. Never start a fire directly on the playa surface. BLM will issue a citation. A fireplace, burn barrel, or BBQ may be used for small fires.

### BURNING ART

We love fire at Burning Man, but we must burn safely. Whether you want to have a burn barrel, plan to burn your artwork, or want to incorporate flame effects in your artwork or Mutant Vehicle, you must follow our Fire Art Safety Guidelines (posted on the Burning Man website). If you intend to burn your art installation, you must register with the Art Department and the Fire Art Safety Team (FAST) prior to arriving at the event.

### FUEL STORAGE SAFETY

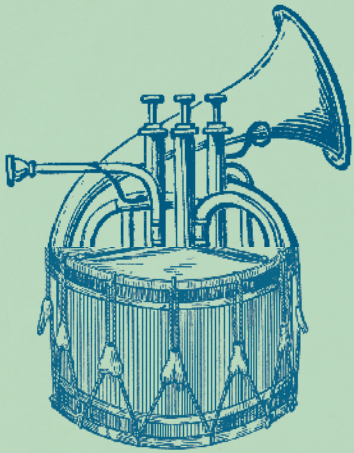
Protect the playa from fuel spills. Fuel expands with heat so never fill your fuel containers past 80%. All containers, regardless of size, must be stored within "secondary containment" basins. These basins must be capable of holding 110% of the volume of the largest single fuel container stored within it. Participants using fuels in an art installation or storing fuel in camp must comply with best practices: [burningman.org/fuel-hazmat](http://burningman.org/fuel-hazmat). Questions about fuel? Contact [fuelsafety@burningman.org](mailto:fuelsafety@burningman.org).

### DIGGING HOLES

Do not dig holes in the playa larger than six-inches wide and two-foot deep. Holes erode within a year's time, even when carefully back filled, leaving a visible mark and creating a safety hazard to drivers. Use an auger or a post hole digger instead of a shovel. Bag the dirt so it doesn't blow away. Refill the hole by tamping the soil back into place (an inverted sledgehammer works well). Repeat this process every few inches while dampening the soil.

### HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS

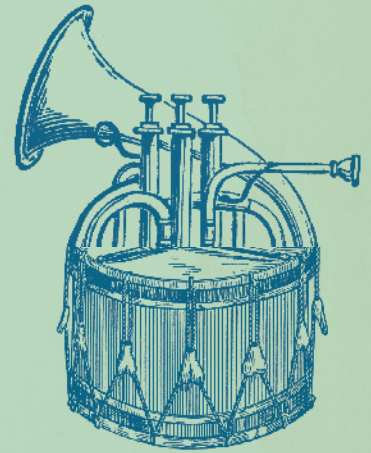
The collection, excavation, or vandalism of archaeological artifacts is prohibited on public lands. If you find something that appears to be an authentic artifact, contact a Black Rock Ranger.



# SURVIVING IN BLACK ROCK CITY



## THE ELEMENTS



### BEATING THE HEAT (& COLD)

The Black Rock Desert is a huge, flat, prehistoric lakebed, composed of a hardpan alkali, ringed by majestic mountains. Daytime temperatures routinely exceed 100°F, with extremely low humidity. Because the atmosphere is so dry, you may not feel particularly warm, but you'll be steadily drying up. Lip balm and lotion are your key to comfort. At nearly 4,000 feet above sea level, your skin will burn much faster and more severely than at lower elevations. Apply sunscreen every morning and repeat as needed. Have some kind of shade for your camp and consider laying low during the hottest part of the day. When the sun drops over the horizon, temperatures can quickly plummet 50 degrees. Overnight lows can be in the 40s, so bring warm clothing and a good sleeping bag.

It takes nearly everyone a day or so to adjust to the desert climate. Don't be surprised if you spend your first day feeling queasy and cranky. **DRINK WATER!**

Consuming alcohol, caffeine or other drugs increases risk of dehydration. Dehydration can cause headaches, stomach cramps, abdominal pains, constipation, flu-like symptoms, and mood swings, and makes it difficult for the body to recover. If someone complains of these symptoms, or shows signs of either severe overheating or a case of chills under the midday sun, get them to shade immediately and seek prompt medical help. (See page 4 for locations and info.)

### LIGHTING YOURSELF AT NIGHT

The playa is dark at night, and it's very easy to run into people or things you can't see, like unlit art installations, pedestrians, and bikes. Imagine being the driver of a Mutant Vehicle trying to navigate safely around the playa and there you are. Walking or riding around with no lights is **NOT SAFE**. Light yourself, your bike, your art, and your belongings. Weak glow sticks and bracelets don't cut it and become instant trash and potential MOOP.

### WHITE OUTS

The playa can be subject to sudden bouts of fierce, unpredictable weather. Storm cells may bring high winds, lightning and rain. Dust storms prowl the playa and can produce instant whiteouts. The desert wind can whip up to speeds exceeding 75 mph in an instant, picking up everything in its path — tents, chairs, card tables, ice chests, you name it. Weight the interior corners of your tent. Rebar makes excellent stakes but the ends must be capped or bent into a candy-cane shape to prevent foot or leg injuries.

If you're caught in a whiteout:

- \* Seek immediate shelter. Now's the time to use that dust mask and goggles you brought.
- \* If you're far from shelter, sit down, turn your back to the wind, cover your face with your shirt and wait.
- \* Be alert for moving vehicles.
- \* If you are driving a vehicle, stop and wait for the whiteout to pass. You will not be able to see where you are going and could injure yourself or others.

### WATER

You must bring your own water! You will need 1.5 gallons of water per person per day for drinking, washing, and cleaning. Always carry a full water bottle when you leave camp. Public pools and showers are not permitted. Water for private use that entails full-body immersion or consumption must be potable and come from Nevada State Health Division approved water sources.

### RAINSTORMS

Sustained rainfall or prolonged whiteout conditions are uncommon, but you should be mentally and physically prepared for both. Bring a bucket (in case the porta-potties are out of commission), pack for cold weather, bring all the food/medicine you need, bring a battery or solar-powered radio. BMIR (94.5) broadcasts news and announcements at the top of the hour.

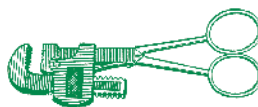
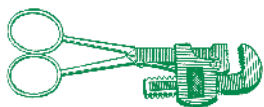
If rain is headed our way:

- \* WALK back to your camp and batten it down. Do not drive or ride your bike; playa mud will immediately clog wheels and gears.
- \* Protect food, medicine, bedding, and clothing by moving them to a safe, dry, elevated place.
- \* Stay off scaffolding, art projects, and the tops of vehicles and trucks.
- \* Cover or secure anything electrical.
- \* Use wood blocks to elevate power connections out of standing water, and seal connections with electrical tape.
- \* Don't operate generators or other electrically powered tools that are standing in water.
- \* Check with your campmates and neighbors to make sure they're prepared
- \* Absolutely no driving in wet areas except for emergency vehicles.

# PERSONAL SURVIVAL CHECKLIST

## YOU MUST BRING

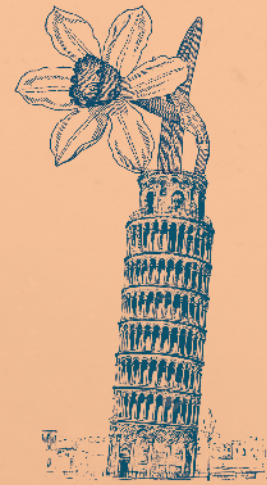
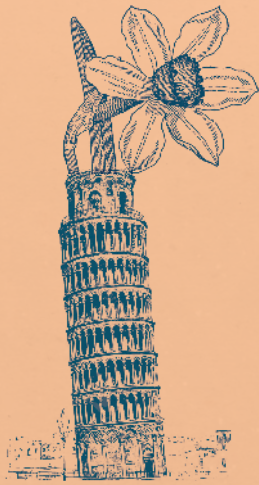
- \* Your ticket or photo ID and confirmation number for Will Call pickup
- \* 1.5 gallons of water per person per day
- \* A reusable water bottle
- \* Food & beverages
- \* An extensive first-aid kit
- \* Sunscreen/sunblock & sunglasses
- \* Warm clothing
- \* Particle/dust mask
- \* Goggles to protect eyes during dust storms
- \* Rope or tie-down straps
- \* Emergency toilet: bring a five-gallon utility bucket with lid and garbage bag liners (doubles as a MOOP receptacle while MOOP walking your camp)
- \* Hand sanitizer
- \* Garbage and recycling bags, and tools to clean up your camp
- \* Duct tape — you'll find a need for it, guaranteed
- \* Flashlights and spare batteries (headlamps are useful)
- \* Lights for your bike and your person
- \* A good camp tent or other shelter and warm sleeping bags and bedding
- \* Portable ashtrays if you smoke (e.g. mint tin that closes securely)
- \* Prescriptions, contact lens supplies (disposables work great), and anything else you need to maintain your health in a remote area with no services
- \* Fire extinguishers
- \* Common sense, an open mind, a sense of humor and a positive attitude



## YOU SHOULD PROBABLY BRING

- \* Shade structures, parasols, something to break the midday sun
- \* A wide brim hat (a chinstrap is useful in the wind)
- \* Cooking stove if you expect to heat food or liquid
- \* A bicycle (mountain bikes or cruisers with balloon tires are best)
- \* A bike lock (tag your bike with name, playa address, email and/or phone information)
- \* Bicycle tire repair kit, pump, spare parts and extra tubes
- \* Portable shower with a drain system to collect gray water
- \* Lotion, lip balm and earplugs (not everyone will want to sleep when you do!)
- \* Watertight protective bags (e.g., heavy zip-type) for cameras and electronic gear
- \* Costumes, musical instruments, props, decorations, and anything that might make the experience more fun for you and your playa neighbors
- \* A battery-powered AM/FM radio so you can listen to BMIR radio and stay informed
- \* Camp marker (flag, banner, distinctive marking)
- \* 12" tent stakes (rebar is cheap and effective in high wind)
- \* Plastic bottles or tennis balls to top and protect dangerous rebar stakes
- \* Extra set of car keys (keys are easily lost, and there is no locksmith in BRC!)
- \* A reusable travel coffee mug





# HOW TO BE A GOOD CITIZEN OF BLACK ROCK CITY

## CONTRIBUTE

**Burning Man is not a festival. Burning Man is a community.**

A temporary city. A global cultural movement based on 10 practical Principles. We don't book acts or provide entertainment. What happens here is up to you! Commercial activity, including branding and marketing, is not allowed. You are entering a "decommodified" space that values who you are, not what you have. Black Rock City is not the place to increase your online following or generate media attention for your ideas, your business, or yourself. You are expected to collaborate, to be inclusive, creative, and connective, and to clean up after yourself. Participate actively as a citizen of Black Rock City.

## COMMERCE & CONCESSIONS

The sale of products and services by participants is strictly prohibited. The sale of handmade items and food is also not allowed. There is no participant vending. Bring what you need. Confront your own survival. This is not a consumer event.

## LOGOS & BRANDING

Black Rock City is a decommodified zone where branding is not welcome. Advertising? Hell no. Launching a product? Not in Black Rock City. Burning Man is not a place to promote your business, website, or product. Got a van from work with logos? Cover it up. Got a rental truck or RV? Alter the logos. Taking pictures of a product on playa to promote it online? Not okay.

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Since the first burn on Baker Beach in 1986 Burning Man has been a family affair. Kids are an important part of our culture in BRC and around the world. Parents are responsible for their children's well being at all times. If a child goes missing or you encounter a lost child, alert a Black Rock Ranger. Always be respectful and aware of the presence of children in BRC. "Kidsville" is a large camp for families located at 5:00 between E & G. If you are interested in camping with Kidsville, learn more at [www.kidsville.org](http://www.kidsville.org). If you are not a family-friendly camp, please locate yourself far away from it. For more info, contact [kids@burningman.org](mailto:kids@burningman.org) and check out our Survival Guide specifically for families on our website.

## DON'T STEAL STREET SIGNS

In the case of an emergency, street signs are critical for navigating Black Rock City. Participants also count on them to find their way around. **All signs must remain in place through the Temple burn on Sunday night.** Seriously folks, we need your help stopping the rampant theft of street signs. If you see this happening, say something — this is your city!

## DOGS & OTHER ANIMALS

Dogs are not permitted. If you show up with your dog, you will not be admitted to the event. This restriction is for the well-being and safety of participants and their four-legged friends. Black Rock City is a loud, tumultuous, and scary place for any animal — do not bring them with you.

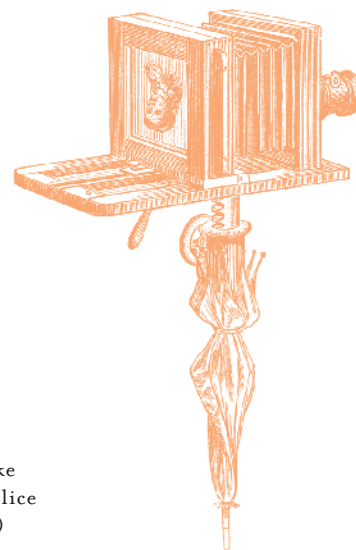
## RVs

There is no recreational vehicle dumping station in Black Rock City, and you may not dump on the playa. BLM issues citations for dumping or leaking gray or black water. You are responsible for preventing and remediating leaks. Catch leaks immediately with a five-gallon bucket. There is no location for scheduling RV servicing. If you see a truck designated "RV servicing," you can flag it down. Many trucks are servicing infrastructure and not RVs, so be sure to look for the sign. The only vendor authorized to provide cash sales of pumping services is United Site Services. Note: pumping services only include removal of gray and black water — not a potable water fill. Use only one-ply toilet paper.

## CAMERAS IN BRC

As a condition of entry to BRC, participants agree not to interfere with the experience of others and to ask permission before photographing or recording anyone. Images from BRC may not be used for any commercial, promotional, editorial, or otherwise non-personal reasons without registering as professional media and receiving permission from Burning Man Project.

Burning Man Project limits media permitted at the event to protect participant privacy and prevent our culture from exploitation. All permitted professional media are credentialed and their cameras tagged with a unique Media ID #. If someone is being disrespectful with a camera, record their Media # and bring it to Media Mecca (at 10 o'clock on the inner ring, across from Center Camp Café). If they do not have a Media Tag, find a Black Rock Ranger immediately. If you find a picture of yourself or your images from Black Rock City being used without your permission, contact [press@burningman.org](mailto:press@burningman.org).



## PROTECT YOUR BELONGINGS

Secure your valuables, especially on Burn night. Consider locking valuables in your car. Take pictures of your valuables, record serial numbers, and report them missing immediately; police can't easily investigate otherwise. (Tip: Make two spare door keys — hide one and carry one.) Introduce yourself to neighbors and local Black Rock Rangers. Work together to keep your neighborhood secure.

## PERSONAL BOUNDARIES

Black Rock City can be an erotically charged environment. You can help prevent sexual harassment and assault while ensuring sex-positive free expression thrives. Know and express your boundaries. Ask about and respect the boundaries of others. Look out for each other, including anyone you encounter who might be in distress. If you see behavior that concerns you, contact a Black Rock Ranger.

## YOUR WELL-BEING

BRC is not immune to the potential dangers of drug and alcohol use and misuse. Burning Man and its partners in health and safety, including law enforcement, believe in the importance of harm reduction. Here are some things to remember:

- ❖ Always be hydrating. Bring your own water wherever you go and be sure to get enough electrolytes.
- ❖ Get enough sleep.
- ❖ Eat healthy, nourishing food.
- ❖ If you don't know what's in something, it's best not to drink or eat it.
- ❖ There have been isolated incidents of intentional dosing with intent to assault — sometimes referred to as "date rape." Participants should be aware of this and exercise appropriate caution.
- ❖ If you feel like you've been dosed, seek help immediately.
- ❖ If you see someone who appears to be overly intoxicated, ask them whether they need help.
- ❖ If you or someone around you needs help, seek out a Black Rock Ranger, medical personnel, or law enforcement officer. They are there to ensure your safety and will assist you.
- ❖ Volunteers from the Zendo Project and the Green Dot team of Black Rock Rangers are trained to help people going through challenging emotional processes. Both groups offer safe spaces in BRC. Seek them out.

# CONSENT

**CONSENT IS THE CORNERSTONE OF A HEALTHY COMMUNITY.** Whether it's a potential sexual encounter, physical touch of any kind (including hugs), taking someone's photo or recording them, offering a gift, or anything requiring permission that will radically alter the experience of another person, **you are responsible for getting verbal consent before engaging.** It is neither ethical nor acceptable to proceed without that person's awareness and clear consent. Period. An impaired person cannot give consent. "Silence is not consent." Black Rock City citizens are encouraged to understand and help others understand the importance of consent. For more info, visit [www.bureauoferoticdiscourse.org](http://www.bureauoferoticdiscourse.org).





# YOUR ROLE IN THE SURVIVAL OF BLACK ROCK CITY

While there are an infinite number of things you can do in Black Rock City, there are some things you need permission or a permit to do, and there are a few things you can't do because they could threaten the future of our event. As a good citizen of BRC, we look to you to support the larger community. Please be aware and help keep BRC alive for years to come.

## RESPECT OUR NEIGHBORS

With more than 75,000 people traveling through these normally quiet rural towns, we have a significant impact on the communities surrounding the Black Rock Desert. Drive slowly. Be courteous and patient, dress appropriately, and be respectful. We are guests here. Be polite and friendly to all local residents, follow posted speed limits, and remember to Leave No Trace.

## GERLACH & EMPIRE

The citizens of Gerlach and Empire welcome us. Please be considerate of them in return. Drive slowly. Don't block driveways or streets. There are two gas stations, a market, water store, restaurant, and several street vendors. If you pull over to patronize these businesses, please avoid causing traffic issues. Remember, regular traffic laws apply, and you may be ticketed for obstructing traffic or creating a nuisance. Do not replenish your water supply from a private local spigot. Water is precious in the desert, and this water belongs to local residents. For more info, go to [burningman.org/event/preparation/local-towns](http://burningman.org/event/preparation/local-towns).

## PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE

Traveling from the West, South, or East to Burning Man on Hwy 447, you will drive through the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe reservation. Please be respectful and supportive of the Pyramid Lake community. Speed limits are strictly enforced. Be courteous to Tribe members. Be respectful of the lake and land—they are considered sacred, the lake is home to two types of endangered fish, and artifact hunting and graffiti are prohibited.

The I-80 Smokeshop in Wadsworth and the Nixon Store in Nixon are open for extended hours during peak travel times, and will be fully stocked with gas and other supplies for travelers to and from Burning Man. There are also RV parks and campgrounds, a restaurant and saloon, gray water disposal services, auto/tow service, and a car wash in Wadsworth and Nixon.

Tribal members also offer services along the road such as car washes, tacos, food drives, and trash collection. Note, all vendors are required to register with the Tribal government, and with NDOT if operations occur on state easements. To learn more about the Paiute tribe, including permit info and locations, visit [plpt.nsn.us](http://plpt.nsn.us) and the Local Towns section of the Burning Man website.





## HOT SPRINGS

Our Bureau of Land Management permit prohibits participants from using any of the local hot springs during the event. Some are lethally hot! A collaborative team of Earth Guardians and BLM patrol and protect these fragile resources. For more information email [earthguardians@burningman.org](mailto:earthguardians@burningman.org).

## NOISE CONTROL & SOUND POLICY

Sound travels easily on the playa, and not everyone wants to sleep when you do. Bring ear plugs! Audio systems must be held to a maximum power amplification of 300 watts, generating 90 decibels at 20 feet. Speakers must be elevated off the playa surface and be backed by a truck, RV, or anything large and solid enough to prevent the sound from traveling backward. If a problem with sound levels continues after sufficient requests and warnings, the source of power for such device or system will be disabled. The hum of generators becomes annoying over a long period of time. Please keep your neighbors in mind. We recommend generators that are sound insulated and/or enclosed in a wooden box. Do not dig a trench to sound-insulate your generator. More information about generators on our website.

## DECOMMODIFICATION & SOCIAL MEDIA

As a citizen of Black Rock City, you help create a "decommodified" zone for one week a year. The playa is free from advertising and transactional relationships, not beholden to corporate influence. It's one of the most important ways the Burning Man experience is different from other events, and that the event is different from the other 51 weeks of the year. We all play a part in keeping our city unique.

This continues when we're off the playa too! Recently we've seen an increase in people posting photos from BRC on Instagram, tagging the brands they're wearing or promoting products they brought with them. A lot of people use art pieces as scenery for their photo shoots. **The playa and its art are not a backdrop for your business!** The names "Burning Man," "Black Rock City," and any imagery from the event may not be used to promote a product, service, or brand. That means furry coats and sparkly boots, hats and headdresses, necklaces and glasses. It also means that art pieces may not be used on commercial websites or in conjunction with marketing campaigns.

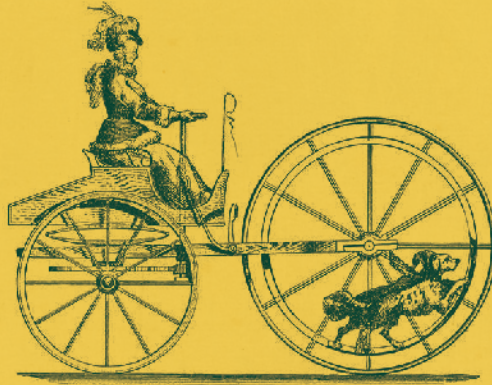
Using Burning Man for marketing purposes is not just a violation of Burning Man's Principles, but also of our ticket terms and conditions (to which everyone agrees when they go to Black Rock City), and federal regulations. More importantly, it's offensive to the thousands of participants who built this city and the art, and who did not give permission for you to use their work to grow your following or promote your product. It is our collective responsibility to educate and prepare Burners about this important and unique aspect of our culture. Please help us by acculturating your campmates about the Principle. If you encounter examples of commodification on playa, you're encouraged to have a conversation with the person and/or notify a Black Rock Ranger or come by Media Mecca in Center Camp. If you see examples off-playa (on social media, etc.), please report them to [ip@burningman.org](mailto:ip@burningman.org).

## SERVING FOOD

Gifted food or certain drinks (including juice or dairy) to the public, or running a kitchen serving 125 persons or more (whether public or private) requires a permit from the Nevada State Health Division. Visit [dphh.nv.gov/Reg/Temp-E/Temporary\\_Events\\_Home/](http://dphh.nv.gov/Reg/Temp-E/Temporary_Events_Home/) and scroll down to "Burning Man — Food." You don't need a permit for bar ice, but your ice must come from a source approved by the Health Division, like local stores or our ice sales. If you have questions on playa, representatives from the Nevada State Health Division are available at Playa Info Saturday, August 24, through Wednesday, August 28, 1 pm – 3pm. The Nevada State Health Division protects the health of our citizens and prevents food-borne epidemics. Please cooperate with their lawful inspections of all public food preparation at our event.

# LAW ENFORCEMENT

**THIS COULD  
BE THE  
MOST IMPORTANT  
READING**



**YOU DO  
BEFORE ARRIVING  
IN BLACK  
ROCK CITY**

The Pershing County Sheriff and BLM are on site to enforce all applicable federal, state, and local laws. The roads leading into and out of the event are patrolled by the Nevada Highway Patrol, Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Pershing County Sheriff's Office, and Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. It is not the mission of these agencies to police your lifestyle or inhibit self-expression. They fulfill the same function as the police in any other city, and it is their duty to uphold the law — please cooperate.

If you are a victim of crime during the event, report it **IMMEDIATELY**. County Sheriff's Office will respond and investigate. It is imperative you report the crime while on site. It's nearly impossible to investigate a crime post-event when camps, cars, evidence, and witnesses are gone. Insurance agencies require a law enforcement report to file claims of theft.

*This isn't legal advice or a comprehensive list of the regulations and laws that apply in Black Rock City, but here are some tips to keep you safe and avoid citation, arrest, and/or eviction from the premises. For information and advice applicable to a particular situation, you should consult with a lawyer.*

- \* The use and possession of **illicit drugs and drug paraphernalia** are violations of the law. Depending on the violation, you may receive a citation or be arrested and/or evicted from the event. The possession of large quantities or a variety of drugs may be interpreted as evidence of **intent to distribute or trafficking**, a serious felony offense. Giving illegal substances to someone else could also be considered drug trafficking.
- \* **Prescription drugs** must be transported with the prescription and kept in the bottle you received from the pharmacist at all times.
- \* **Driving with an open container or under the influence of alcohol (DUI)** is illegal. Nevada's blood alcohol limit (BAC) is .08 for drivers 21 years of age and older, and 0.02 for drivers under 21.
- \* **Knowingly serving alcohol to minors** is illegal. If your theme camp has a bar where alcoholic drinks are gifted, the person serving alcohol should check that any person being served is at least 21. It is a state and local offense for anyone under 21 to consume alcoholic beverages or to try to pass themselves off as being of age. It is a violation of Pershing County law for minors to even possess alcoholic beverages.
- \* Any act of **assault or theft** is a violation of the law, and may be cited or arrested as a felony offense.
- \* **Possession or discharge of firearms or weapons** is prohibited.
- \* **Dumping, leaking or spilling gray water, black water, oil or fuel** is illegal.
- \* **Use of drones is prohibited** unless the operator is registered through the Remote Control BRC program (RCBRC) and operates the drone in accordance with BRC policies and applicable federal laws and regulations.
- \* **Human waste (urination and defecation) on the playa is a violation of federal regulations.** You may be issued a ticket that will cost you hundreds of dollars.

## Disclaimer

This Survival Guide provides information about laws and regulations applicable to activities within the Black Rock Desert in the State of Nevada, and at the Burning Man event. Legal information is not legal advice, and although we strive to ensure the accuracy and usefulness of the information here, you should consult with a lawyer if you want legal advice about a particular situation.



## THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RECOGNIZE STATE LAWS DECRIMINALIZING MARIJUANA FOR MEDICAL OR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

The possession or use of marijuana is a federal infraction in the Black Rock-High Rock National Conservation Area where the Burning Man event takes place. Having a medical marijuana card is NOT a defense.

As of 2017, adults aged 21 and over are permitted **under Nevada law** to possess and transport up to one ounce of marijuana (1/8 ounce of concentrated marijuana) and marijuana paraphernalia within the state. But the use of marijuana in public places is still prohibited, as is possession or transportation of more than an ounce (which could be evidence of trafficking under state law). Other restrictions also apply.

See Nevada Revised Statutes Chapters 453A and 453D for the full text of Nevada's laws regulating medical and recreational marijuana. Remember that **marijuana remains illegal under federal law**, and BLM may cite anyone for possession of any amount.

## WHY AM I GETTING PULLED OVER?

- ☛ Exceeding posted speed limits on the playa may result in a traffic stop and could escalate to a vehicle search (depending on the circumstances), and a moving violation of \$250 or more.
- ☛ BLM regulations require all motorized vehicles driven at night, except for Mutant Vehicles, to have two working headlights, two working tail lights, and two working brake lights. Motor vehicles must display an unobstructed rear license plate.
- ☛ All vehicles must have a current registration sticker and insurance. All drivers must have their driver's license on them when operating any vehicle.
- ☛ You may only enter and exit the event site through the Gate. You may not enter or drive around the closed zone surrounding the event site except to approach the main Gate.
- ☛ Do not attempt to break through our city boundaries or avoid traffic at the conclusion of the event by driving around looking for an alternative route.
- ☛ Hiking in the closure order area is highly discouraged. Those on foot in this area should be prepared to show a ticket stub or risk citation by law enforcement.
- ☛ Visiting area hot springs during the event is not allowed.
- ☛ A copy of the closure order is made available at the BLM Mobile Command station at 5:30 and Esplanade.

## BLACK ROCK RANGERS

While Black Rock Rangers patrol the city, they are not law enforcement personnel. They are members of the Burning Man community, just like you. You can identify them by their khaki-colored attire, featuring the familiar Burning Man logo in brown on their backs and chests. You can request their assistance at any time for disputes, emergencies, or questions. They are available 24/7 throughout Black Rock City, at Ranger Headquarters at 5:45 and Esplanade, and at the Ranger Outposts at the 3:00 & 9:00 plazas.



Outside of Black Rock City we often only have law enforcement to call when we have a safety concern or need to settle things like a noise complaint or another issue with our neighbors. In BRC, we have veteran members of our community who can help mediate disagreements, find lost kids, address safety concerns, direct participants to resources and information, and even just help put a fresh set of eyes and ears on sticky problems. The Rangers' ideal outcome is to help people solve their own problems with a gentle nudge in the right direction, and then fade into the dust when they're not needed. Rangers can radio for law enforcement, medical and mental health staff, firefighting resources, and environmental clean-up teams if necessary.

## HELP FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT

If you need law enforcement assistance for any reason, please wave down a patrol unit, find a Black Rock Ranger who will help you contact law enforcement, or visit the law enforcement substation located at Esplanade and 5:15. The station is open 24/7 during the event and is staffed by BLM and the Pershing County Sheriff's Office.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT FEEDBACK

If you have any feedback (negative or positive) regarding your experience with law enforcement, please fill out one of our Law Enforcement Feedback Forms at Playa Info, Black Rock Ranger HQ at 5:45 and Esplanade or online (<https://burningman.org/event/black-rock-city-guide/law-enforcement/>) while the details are still fresh in your mind. Your feedback helps improve how we work with the agencies to ensure the safety of our event. It's important you fill out the form completely and truthfully. Include the officer's name, agency, vehicle license number, vehicle number (painted on the side of all law enforcement vehicles), badge number, time of day, details of the event, and the names of any witnesses. Avoid hearsay and accusations that can't be substantiated. We review feedback forms turned in during the event and discuss them with law enforcement agencies daily (without disclosing participants' names). The timely return of these forms enables us to act on them before the event is over.



# Transportation & Traffic



## GETTING TO & FROM BLACK ROCK CITY

Traffic is one of the biggest challenges our community faces. In addition to longer wait times to and from BRC, traffic places added stress on the surrounding rural area. Here is how we can work together to make a difference:

- \* Carpool! Fewer vehicles on the road will reduce wait times.
- \* Take the Burner Express: [burnerexpress.burningman.org](http://burnerexpress.burningman.org)
- \* Arrive and depart at non-peak times to spread out vehicle traffic. Peak arrival and Exodus days are usually Sunday and Monday.
- \* Get traffic updates during your drive to or departure from BRC by listening to BMIR 94.5 FM (also streaming on iHeartRadio), following @BManTraffic on Twitter, and/or by listening to public service announcements during arrival and Exodus on GARS (Gate Advisory Radio Station) at 95.1 FM.
- \* Inbound traffic on Saturday and Sunday causes major impacts to the surrounding communities. Please do not park on the sides of Highway 447 or CR 34, as this affects the ability of BRC participants, emergency service vehicles, and local communities to travel safely.

## LOAD YOUR VEHICLE SAFELY!

Loading your vehicle properly, whether it is a car, truck, trailer, motorhome, or anything towed, will make your trip safer and less stressful.

- \* Never exceed the load or towing capacity of a vehicle or trailer.
- \* Heavy items should be low, centered, and over or between the axles. For trailers, load the heaviest items toward the front. Secure your load with straps or rope.
- \* Cover your load with a tarp.
- \* Make sure the brakes and lights work on your vehicle and any trailer you're towing.
- \* Always use safety chains, installed between your trailer and the tow vehicle.
- \* Do not overload the roof or roof rack on your vehicle. Items may fall off. Trash bags

are found along the roadside every year due to poorly secured loads. Don't be that Burner.

## VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

You are traveling to the Nevada desert in August. Temperatures can reach well above 100°F during the day. Your vehicle is going to be loaded with extra weight. Check the quality of your vehicle's tires and air pressure. Before leaving home, have your local mechanic inspect your radiator, tires (including your spare), belts, brakes, hoses, lights, and fluids.

## TRAVEL TIPS & REMINDERS

Many motorists travel on Interstate 80 until they reach the Wadsworth exit. The roadway from Wadsworth to the playa (Highway 447) is very different from I-80. I-80 is designed to accommodate several thousand vehicles per hour. Highway 447 is a two-lane road with narrow dirt shoulders that drop off steeply in places, no rest areas and very few pull outs. Highway 447 has many blind curves, grades, open range areas, and soft sand roadway shoulders. Pay attention and obey all traffic laws. Please don't impact the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe with your driving.

- \* Highway 447 is open range area. There are no fences bordering the roadway and cattle roam freely. After dark, cattle are often drawn to the road to soak up warmth radiating from the asphalt. Cows can cost more than \$2,000, if you hit one, you or your insurance company will be held responsible. Be prepared to share the road with livestock and wildlife.
- \* There are jackrabbits in the area. It is not worth jeopardizing your safety to swerve in an attempt to avoid them.
- \* If you do need to pull over, look for a wide open area that doesn't have steep shoulders bordering the highway. This will reduce the potential for getting stuck in the soft sand shoulder (this happens a lot!).
- \* Avoid pulling over near curves and grades. These areas can be extremely dangerous for you and other motorists when attempting to re-enter the roadway. Approaching motorists

are often unable to see you.

- \* Most vehicle accidents in which participants are injured occur on Highway 447 and County Road 34 on the final approach to BRC. Tired? Stop to rest in a safe location!
- \* Highway 447 leading to Gerlach and all other roads in the area are patrolled by the Nevada Highway Patrol, Washoe County Sheriff and, on tribal land, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Police. Observe posted speed limits.
- \* If stopped for speeding on tribal lands (Nixon and Wadsworth) be prepared to pay a fine immediately.
- \* Do not park alongside County Road 34. The Sheriff will ticket any vehicles that are parked by the roadside.
- \* Yield to emergency vehicles — meaning get off the road as quickly and safely as possible to allow them to pass. Again, please respect Tribal and all emergency vehicles and personnel
- \* Do not draft emergency vehicles. It is unsafe and potentially illegal.
- \* Do not get out of your car if traffic stops.
- \* When using safety chains with a trailer, be sure they aren't dragging on the pavement. They can cause sparks, leading to brush fires.
- ◇ Do not throw cigarette butts — or anything — out the window!
- \* Gate Road is your only access to Black Rock City. There are no other routes.
- \* The edges of the playa are saturated with water. If you attempt to drive there, you risk getting stuck. Mired vehicles have remained stranded for days or weeks.

### THERE ARE LIMITED SERVICES IN THE 76 MILES BETWEEN WADSWORTH & EMPIRE.

This means no reliable access to gas and no water. Plan accordingly. Be wary of picking up hitchhikers—they may not have a ticket! Insist on seeing proof of a ticket before giving anyone a ride.

# Leave Nevada Beautiful

## Trash, Recycling and Wastewater

Pack your load securely and separate trash from recycling. (See Travel Tips on page 18). If you have to carry garbage on top of your vehicle, make sure it is double-bagged and strapped down securely. **DO NOT** discard refuse along the highway, in neighboring towns or rest areas, or behind private businesses. This reflects very poorly on our community and threatens our future. Dispose **ONLY** at authorized collection areas — several locations are nearby (see below). The Nevada Highway Patrol may issue tickets to anyone leaving trash on the ground. There is a maximum \$2,000 fine for littering.

### EXODUS TRASH AND RECYCLING LOCATIONS

Leave Nevada Beautiful is our network of Burner-friendly authorized trash, recycling, and RV gray/black water servicing facilities where you can legally dispose of your waste on your way home after the Burning Man event!

Beware: You may encounter other "private enterprises" along the highways willing to take your trash for money. We cannot vouch for them. Sometimes these private enterprises have left their trash behind at their site after taking your money.

### TRASH & RECYCLING LOCATIONS

#### WHOLE FOODS MARKET

6139 South Virginia St, Reno NV  
(775) 852-8023

Sun 9/1 — Wed 9/4, 6 am — 12 am • \$5 per 35 gal. • free recycling (please clean, sort, unbag recyclables before deposit)  
• hazardous waste prohibited

#### STEAD TRANSFER STATION

13890 Mt Anderson, Reno NV  
(775) 972-9160

Tue — Sat, 8 am—4 pm • \$25 min. per cubic yd. • recycling no charge /no buybacks

#### CHURCHILL TRANSFER STATION

1100 US Highway 95A, Fernley NV (775) 329-8822 Tue—Sat, 8 am—4 pm • Closed for lunch 12 pm—12:30 pm • \$26 min. per cubic yd. • recycle no charge/no buybacks

#### RABBIT TRAXX TRUCK STOP — MINI-MART

580 Patterson St., Cedarville CA (530) 279-2022 24hrs Sat 8/31 — Wed 9/4 • \$5 per kitchen size bag, \$10 per 35 gal., \$15 up to 55 gal., \$15 bike recycling • free recycling (please clean, sort, unbag recyclables before deposit) • hazardous waste prohibited

### TRASH ONLY LOCATIONS

#### LOCKWOOD REGIONAL LANDFILL

2700 East Mustang Rd, Reno NV (775) 329-8822 Closed Labor Day  
Mon — Fri, 8am — 4:30 pm  
\$35 min. per cubic yd. (additional charges based on type of waste)

#### COMMERCIAL ROW/SAGE STREET TRANSFER STATION

1390 E. Commercial Row, Reno NV (775) 326-2416  
Open Labor Day • Mon — Fri, 7 am — 5 pm  
Sat — Sun 8am — 4:30pm • \$35 min per cubic yd.

### RECYCLING ONLY LOCATIONS

#### RECYCLE AMERICA — RENO RECYCLING CENTER

1390 E. Commercial Row, Reno NV (775) 326-2381 Closed Labor Day  
Mon — Fri, 8 am — 4:30 pm • free recycling • no buybacks • charges for electronics and CFLs (cash or check only)

#### GREEN SOLUTIONS

1085 Telegraph, Reno NV (775) 870-0812 Closed Labor Day  
Mon—Fri, 8 am—4 pm • Sat—Sun, 12 pm—4 pm • free recycling • no buybacks

### RV DUMP — GRAY WATER & BLACK WATER

#### PYRAMID LAKE MARINA & CAMPGROUND

2500 Lakeview Dr, Sutcliffe NV  
(775) 476-1155  
24 hr credit card kiosk \$10 dump station  
(must have hoses and elbow before payment)

#### LOVE'S TRAVEL STOP

825 Commerce Center Dr, Fernley NV  
(775) 575-2200  
24 hrs • \$10 gray and black water  
(must have own hose)

#### GOLDEN GATE PETROLEUM

1055 S. Rock Blvd, Sparks NV  
(775) 358-7400  
5 am — 9 pm • \$8 gray and black water  
• propane available • no potable water

#### TA TRAVEL CENTER

200 N. McCarran Blvd, Sparks NV  
(775) 359-0550  
24 hrs • RVs and 55-gallon drums acceptable  
• \$5 gray water and black water

#### RENO BOOMTOWN KOA CAMPGROUND

2100 Garson Rd, Verdi NV  
(775) 345-2444 open everyday, 8 am — 9 pm  
• \$10 gray and black water • \$10 RV potable water fill-up

#### MODOC DISTRICT FAIRGROUNDS

1 Center St, Cedarville CA  
(530) 279-2315 24 hrs  
• \$5 trash per 13 gal. • \$10 trash up to 55 gal.  
• free recycle • free gray water  
\$10 RV dump • \$20 RV hookup • \$5 bike recycle • \$10 dry camping • \$5 showers  
• non-perishable food donations accepted for local shelter • call to reserve storage

#### ALTURAS CHEVRON

1080 North Main St, Alturas CA  
(530) 233-5114  
open everyday 5:30 am — 12 am  
• \$10 gray and black water



# MAP & DIRECTIONS TO BLACK ROCK CITY

## FROM THE SOUTHEAST

From Fallon, take Hwy 50 west 31 miles to Fernley. Drive through Fernley to Hwy 427. Stay on 427 for 5 miles to Wadsworth. Turn right onto Hwy 447. It's 75 miles to Gerlach.

## FROM THE WEST & SOUTHWEST

Route 1: From Reno take I-80 east 28 miles. Take the Wadsworth/Pyramid Lake Exit #43 to Hwy 447. Turn left—you can get gas here. Go north 1 mile to Wadsworth and turn left on Hwy 447. It's 75 miles to Gerlach.

Route 2: From Reno take I-80 east 4 miles. Take Exit #18 to Pyramid Way/Hwy 445. Turn left and travel north 31 miles. At Pyramid Lake, turn right on Hwy 446, and go east 12 miles to Nixon—you can get gas here. Turn left on Hwy 447, traveling north. It's 59 miles to Gerlach.

## FROM THE EAST

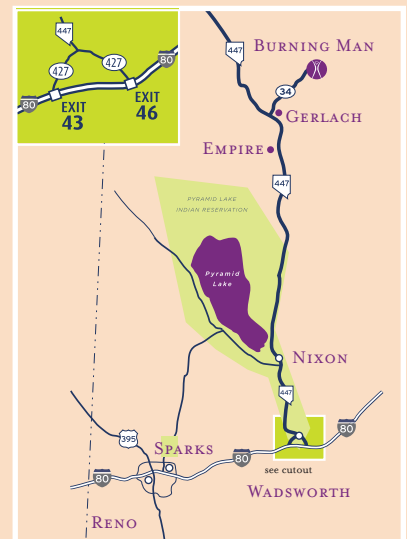
From Winnemucca, take I-80 for 130 miles to Fernley. Take Exit #46. You can get gas and supplies here. Turn right onto Hwy 427. Travel 5 miles to Wadsworth. Turn right onto Hwy 447. It's 75 miles to Gerlach. The other route from Winnemucca—Jungo Road—is a very treacherous dirt road, with easy-to-miss turns, and it is likely to cause a flat tire or worse.

## FROM THE NORTH

From US 395, go 25 miles east on Hwy 299 to downtown Cedarville. This is the last opportunity to fill up on gas, supplies, and services until Gerlach. From downtown, go south onto County Rd 1/Hwy 447 for 84 miles to Gerlach. Before entering Gerlach, turn left on County Road 34 and it's 8 miles to the Burning Man entrance.

## GERLACH TO BLACK ROCK CITY

From Gerlach, go west on Hwy 447 for one mile to the fork. Take the right-hand fork, County Road 34, and continue 8 miles to the Black Rock City entrance. Note the 3-mile turn-off is NOT an entrance to Black Rock City. The 12-mile turn-off just beyond ours, will also not take you to Black Rock City. Both will be patrolled by BLM Rangers.



## EXODUS

While the event ends at 6 pm Monday, September 2, Exodus continues until 6 pm Tuesday. Sunday and Monday are when most people leave. If your schedule allows, stay until Tuesday and use the extra time to rest for the drive, secure your vehicle loads, or MOOP your campsite.

At peak times, Exodus can take six to nine hours just to get from your camp to County Road 34 ("the pavement"). From there, plan for three hours or more to get to Reno. Accidents or other traffic issues can make the trip even longer, so plan accordingly. Make sure you have water, snacks, and other necessities accessible in your vehicle.

Above all, keep the playa spirit with you! No sense getting road rage, cutting in front of fellow participants, or trying to dangerously pass cars on the highway. Are those two extra minutes really that important? Take your time and remember, Burning Man culture extends beyond the event.

## PULSING: EXODUS PEAK TIMES

Pulsing is a process of moving vehicles at regular intervals toward the highway on Gate Road to avoid the long slow creep that challenges the sanity of even the most patient among us. With pulsing, vehicles stop and turn off their engines. Then, every hour, vehicles are pulsed a mile forward all at once. Pulsing does not get you out of the city more quickly, but it gives you a break from driving and is more environmentally friendly.

We may implement Pulsing at any time from 12:01 am Sunday morning until 11:59 pm Monday, or until it's no longer needed. Make the most out of your Exodus experience! Pulsing is the perfect time to create One-Hour Neighborhoods (see a participant's explanation of this idea here: <http://apictureofit.com/2011/09/burning-man-2011-exodus/>) and ensure your fellow Burners have properly secured their loads. Pack water, snacks, instruments and anything else to make the wait more fun. Have a one-hour dance party and meet your neighbors in line.

Potties are available on the sides of Gate Road. Listen to BMIR 94.5 FM for Exodus and Pulsing info.

## EXODUS QUESTIONS

For a full list of frequently asked questions about Exodus, go here: [burningman.org/event/preparation/getting-there-and-back/exodus/](http://burningman.org/event/preparation/getting-there-and-back/exodus/)

2019  
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Design: Arin Fishkin  
Project & Production Manager: Sarah Harbold  
Content: Burning Man Project Communications Team

WITH GRATITUDE TO THE ORIGINAL INSTIGATOR LARRY HARVEY (1948-2018)