

Chapter 2: Be Quiet



The vast majority of campgrounds all over the country have rules related to campground noise. As discussed in the “Be Quiet” section of the Campground Etiquette course video, campgrounds may have specific rules related to TVs, radios, dogs, children, generators, and late arrival, just to name a few.

To practice good campground etiquette, it is important to find positive solutions to any noise rules where you are camping. Listed below are potential problems you might encounter while at a campsite. Reflect on them and add your own solution.

| TVs

Problem: An important football game is on, and you’re watching it with your family outside on your TV. It’s after 10 p.m.

What can you do to show good campground etiquette?

Your solution: _____

Possible solutions:

1. Continue watching the game but with the volume turned way down.
2. Put on headphones and enjoy the game.
3. Watch the rest of the game inside your RV.

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| Radios

Problem: You're celebrating your child's 10th birthday by having a party at a state park campsite with friends and family. Music is part of the enjoyment.

What can you do to show good campground etiquette?

Your solution: _____

Possible solutions:

1. Play music for the party, but make sure it doesn't extend beyond the boundary of the campsite.
2. Increase the volume of the music inside the RV only—and keep the windows closed—for anyone who wants to enjoy it at a higher volume.
3. Next time you're throwing a loud party, think about finding a more isolated campsite by boondocking away from everyone.

| Dogs

Problem: You're at a county run campground and want to play fetch with your dogs. The county has rules stating dogs must always remain on a leash 6 feet or shorter.

What can you do to show good campground etiquette?

Your solution: _____

Possible solutions:

1. Pick a different game to play with your dogs outside or run with them.
2. See if the campground or a nearby park has a dog run for your dogs to get exercise.
3. Consider camping in a national forest that allows your dogs to run freely off leash.

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| Children

Problem: You're well aware that your children love to play outside when camping. You also understand how loud they can be at times and how they always like to push the rules.

What can you do to show good campground etiquette?

Your solution: _____

Possible solutions:

1. Review campground etiquette rules with your children before and while playing outside.
2. If your children are having trouble staying away from other campsites while being excessively loud, tell them to play inside the RV until they understand how to keep the volume down.
3. Consider taking your children to a part of the campground with minimal people to play.

| Generators

Problem: You're staying at a campground that has generator quiet hours from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., and it's a hot summer day. You want air conditioning to cool down.

What can you do to show good campground etiquette?

Your solution: _____

Possible solutions:

1. Enjoy your A/C in the day, and open the windows to your RV at night for a possible cross breeze as you follow the campground quiet hours.
2. Look for a clubhouse or air conditioned building still open to go into until you're ready to go to sleep since you can't run your generator past 10 p.m.
3. Consider dispersed camping away from other people next time.

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| Late Arrival

Problem: You tried to make it to the national park before dark but got sidetracked. It's midnight as you're pulling into the campground.

What can you do to show good campground etiquette?

Your solution: _____

Possible solutions:

1. Avoid speaking loudly when giving directions while backing in.
2. Set up as little as possible to minimize noise.
3. Keep a very quiet voice when hanging out and enjoying the stars after setting up.