

**U.S. Forest Service
Briefing Packet**

2000 Rainbow Family Gathering

Prepared by the National Incident Team

BRIEFING PAPER

2000 RAINBOW FAMILY NATIONAL GATHERING

BACKGROUND:

The Forest Service is the primary agency affected by the annual Gathering with responsibility for protection of natural resources and public health and safety on National Forest System lands. In the last five years, the Gathering has been held on various National Forests:

- 1999 - Allegheny National Forest, Region 9
- 1998 - Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, Region 3
- 1997 - Ochoco National Forest, Region 6
- 1996 - Mark Twain National Forest, Region 9
- 1995 - Carson National Forest, Region 3
- 1994 - Bridger-Teton National Forest, Region 4
- 1993 - Alabama and Kentucky, Region 8

The Forest Service had no strategy for managing the Gathering until 1997. For 26 years, the host Forest was left to deal with the social, natural resource, economic and political effects of "hosting" the Gathering. In most cases, the Forest with the chosen site was left to start from scratch. Consistently, closing reports from the host Forest called for one group of Forest Service people, a team, to manage this event from year to year and for additional dollars to be allocated for this team's activities.

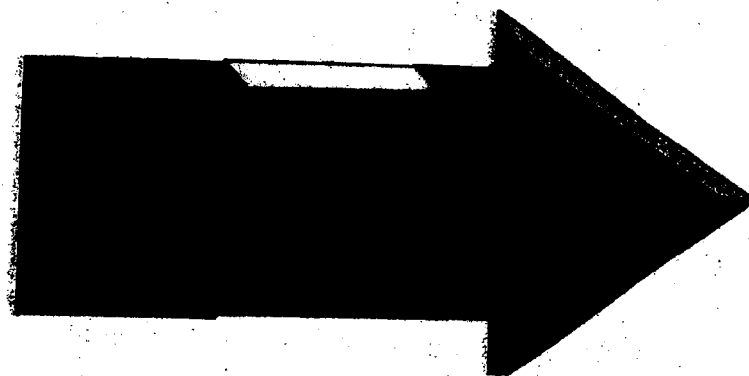
CREATING AN ORGANIZED RESPONSE:

In 1997, the National Leadership Team developed a strategy for managing the gathering and chose three individuals to serve in Incident Command System roles of Incident Commander, Operations Section Chief for Law Enforcement and Information Officer/Public Affairs. These individuals were to be the consistent, experienced leadership for assisting the host Forest in managing the Gathering for at least three years. In addition, money was allocated for the Team's activities in managing the Gathering thereby eliminating the severe budget impacts incurred by the host Forest. In 1997, Region 6 activated a Type II Fire Team for the Gathering. The attempt to blend the three individuals in these leadership roles with a previously established team was not productive.

In 1998, the National Leadership Team refined the National Strategy and approved filling positions for a National Incident Team. This is a 'Short Team' consisting of the Incident Commander, Safety Officer, Information Officer, Planning Section Chief, Logistics/Finance Section Chief, Operations Section Chief for Law Enforcement and Communications Unit Leader. These seven individuals are charged with relieving the Forest and District of most of the day-to-day management of the Gathering while working closely with the unit to meet their unique resource and social concerns under a clear Delegation of Authority. The Team will work with the Line Officers' concerns and desired outcomes in mind and utilize existing networks for communications efforts with communities, interest groups and other agencies.

In the future, this National Incident Team could be utilized on other types of incidents with unique social and law enforcement elements such as natural disasters or protests.

ABOUT THE RAINBOW FAMILY.....



The MINI- MANUAL

How to put on a Gathering, and keep it happy and healthy

WELCOME HOME!

The Rainbow Family of Living Light
welcomes you to our
Family Gathering

Each year, The Family holds the **Gathering of the Tribes**, a totally free, non-commercial sharing of our lives and sacred hearts in the **Cathedral of Nature**.

There is no authoritarian hierarchy here. We have a tribal anarchy where we take care of each other, because we recognize that we are all One. The Gathering works because each of us takes the responsibility for doing what needs to be done, and for teaching others.

Part of that responsibility is a pledge we keep to each other:

- We pledge to walk lightly on the earth
- We pledge to respect and care for each other and for all living things.
- We pledge to drop all forms of violence in our dealings with each other.
- We pledge to deal with each other up front and with open hearts.

Much goes into coordinating a Gathering, and much has been learned by us collectively about how to make the Gathering happy and healthy.

This Mini-Manual continues to evolve, gathering our wisdom into one place for new and old gatherers alike.

Our Name

Any gathering that bears the name "Rainbow" is a **completely free, non commercial event**. All supplies are donated, or paid for with money donated to the Magic Hat. There is no admission fee. No money is exchanged within the Gathering. This frees us from legal and licensing entanglements, and guarantees us our Constitutional right to gather on public land.

Our Gatherings are also **open to all peaceful people**. There are no invitations or memberships. No one is turned away, except for breaking the pledge of non-violence. *If you have a belly button, you can be a Rainbow.* The Rainbow is made up of all colors.

Scouting

Experienced scouts teach new ones as they inspect many potential sites discovered from topographical maps and aerial photos, and following leads from local people in the chosen area. They coordinate thru the regional focalizers, and by attending Scouting Council in April.

Site Criteria

A Gathering site should have:

- **Good water** - deep springs or well protected surface water - enough to fill the drinking, cooking, and washing needs of hundreds or thousands of people. They should be at a distance from the main camp, to prevent contamination.
- **Open meadows** - for councils, workshops, pageants, and frisbees. Keep meadows clear of individual camps.
- **Firewood** - Lots of dead wood lying on the ground, for kitchens and friendship circles.
- **Parking space** - large enough for several hundred cars and vans, within reasonable walking and shuttle distance - but separate from the Gathering proper. For the young children, elderly, and handicapped, the walk in should not be too long and strenuous. For optimum peace and safety, allow only supply and emergency vehicles into the Gathering.
- **Only one road** - or as few as possible. You will want one road for ambulances and heavy supplies, but you don't want easy access for car stereos, beer coolers, and a rowdy party scene. Conversely, don't set the site at the end of a dead end road. *Don't set a trap for yourselves.* Place it on a thru road so there is both a front and a back gate.

No one site will have all these in equal abundance - for instance, good springs are often on a steep mountainside far from a broad flat place good for parking. Look for a balance for all these needs.

Howdy Folks

When the site has been chosen, the Howdy Folks goes out to local focalizers in the mail, and on computer networks. This is the "official" notice of the site.

It contains verbal instructions for getting there, as well as a map. It also has phone numbers for getting information while on the way. The focalizers make copies, and send them out to their mailing lists. They also may distribute them at local Rainbow and New Age events, food co-ops, and other places where enlightened people congregate.

Seed Camp

At least a week before a Gathering is to start, a dedicated group of people arrives early to:

- inform the local Forest Service about our impending arrival,
- find and develop water sources,
- set up the first kitchen and dig the first latrines,
- locate and mark out the parking lot,
- lay out trails and remove obstructions,
- locate Main Circle and dig the firepit, and
- set up Welcome Home.

This is a time when you can work intensely with a few other people and form some deep friendships.

From this seed grows the flower of our Gathering.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

- The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

The Forest Service

Our Family is committed to preserving the priceless heritage of our national forests. In this spirit we cooperate with the rangers of the USDA Forest Service in doing the job they were hired for: protecting this land.

The local forest rangers are notified of a Gathering's coming no later than the first few hours of seed camp. We honor their requests in special ecological concerns. Rangers have given Family members valuable tips about sites and water, and provided us seeds for reseedling and trees for us to plant. We treat them as people who share our concerns.

We do not sign permits or agreements with the government. Our non-hierarchical structure gives nobody the authority to sign such a thing, and we are exercising our rights, guaranteed in the Constitution, to assemble peaceably. This right was upheld by a Federal Court in Texas in 1988.

Remember that forest rangers are law enforcement officials, and have the power to arrest you if they see you breaking any law, be it about wildlife or what's in your hand.

Wildlife

This is the Cathedral of Nature that we gather in, and we keep it that way. We disturb the environment as little as we can.

Riverbanks and wetlands are vulnerable ecosystems. Plants of older phyla - like mosses and ferns - are especially fragile. Cactus is more vulnerable than you might think. We might be walking thru animal's hunting grounds. *Stay on the forest floor and the dry meadow.*

Remember that insects are also wildlife. Give an anthill its space, and before you throw wood into a fire, look to see if it's home to some bugs. Never use insecticides. Thiamine, B-complex vitamins, citronella, and raw garlic can help keep biting critters away.

Use things where they lie. The more you move, the more you will have to put back. Hang tarps from trees, make structural members out of branches - rather than cutting and setting posts. Never cut a living tree, or break things off. Use only dead wood found lying on the ground. Stripping bark hurts birch and aspen trees.

Pick one place for the swimming hole, and don't go into a stream anywhere else. Leave beaver ponds alone.

Don't go near any place baby animals are kept. The way animals defend their young is beastly.

Make a few trails and stay on them. Don't crush underfoot a whole area. They should go over ground that will stay high and dry after a rain. Form a trail just by trampling, and a circle area by tushwhacking (everybody sitting down), rather than by cutting plants down.

Don't litter. Birds can pick up filter tips and choke. Broken glass is a danger to all creatures' feet. Pick up trash left behind by those who are not yet Rainbows:

The earth is our mother
We must take care of her

Water

Our water sources are our lifeblood, and must be protected from the very first day that people are on the site.

The best drinking water comes from springs. Streams or ponds with a good constant flow can also be used. Any water for drinking is marked off with strings or ribbons, and no campsites or latrines are within 100 feet of them. People stay away from them unless involved in obtaining water.

Never pour liquid wastes into a water source, or on the ground nearby. Use a grey water pit, dug at least 100 feet away.

Never use soap in a water source. Soaps will pollute the water. Take a bucket at least 100 feet from open water to wash. Even bio-degradable soap like Dr. Bonner's can kill fish and micro-organisms.

Never dip your own canteen or cup into a water source - use a common hose or dipper instead.

Never drink water unless you know that it has been scientifically tested, adequately filtered, or boiled. Even the purest looking water can contain micro-organisms that can cause severe intestinal illness. To be absolutely safe, boil your water for at least 1 minute.

12. Thou shalt have a place also without the camp, whither thou shalt go forth abroad:

13. And thou shalt have a paddle upon thy weapon; and it shall be, when thou wilt ease thyself abroad, thou shalt dig therewith, and shalt turn back and cover that which cometh from thee:

14. For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.

- Deuteronomy 23

Latrines

If you gotta go, go to a latrine. Never take a dump on top of the ground and walk off and leave it. The first fly who sees it will go tell all the others in the nearest kitchen.

Deep narrow trenches at least 3 feet deep are best. Keep the excavated soil in a neat pile for fill-in later. Cut out sod, and preserve it for replacement over the filled hole.

Lime - or ashes from a wood fire - is kept in a can nearby, and is sprinkled on top of your leavings, to reduce odor. Dirt is then shoveled back in on top gradually, to keep your waste covered completely. The pit is filled in all the way when the contents come up to within 18 inches of the surrounding ground level, and a new pit is dug nearby.

Hand washing facilities with chlorinated water are provided nearby. Large coffee cans or other rainproof covers are provided for toilet paper. Signs are placed on the trails nearest by, and colored tape marks the path to a latrine.

Improper latrines are a potential link between us and a very sick camp. If you dig a shitter, cover it up in a fly-tight manner, using plywood, boards, or logs covered with soil - to fill the air (fly) holes between the cover and the earth. The covers are washed daily.

Latrines are at least 100 feet from open water, and never uphill from a spring.

Don't make the fly connection:

shit > flies > food > YOU

You haven't been to a Gathering until you've dug a shitter

Recycling

We don't mix all our garbage and trash together, and make the local landfill landfull. We separate our refuse, recycle whatever we can, and dispose of the rest in a nature-friendly way. At every kitchen - and at well travelled sites around the Gathering - there are recycling stations, each with seven containers - for:

- metal that is bought as scrap, like aluminum, copper, iron and steel.
- glass of any kind. (These first two are taken to a local collection point.)
- paper that we burn ourselves.
- plastics and other materials that can't be burned without making toxic odors. This goes into plastic bags, to be taken to a dumpster or landfill at least 100 miles from the Gathering.
- organic matter, food waste that will eventually go into a compost pit.

- **lost and found**, to be left for its owner until the Gathering ends.
- **free bin**, stuff offered that someone could still take and use. Things left over after the Gathering are taken to a local charity that can use them.

The Three R's:

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Neighborhoods

Neighborhoods make the Gathering more fun with the people they introduce you to, and impact the ecology less. All camp needs - such as latrines, water, child watching, or security - can be focalized around a neighborhood fire.

When you arrive, look around and find a concentration of tents to set up your own near. Kitchens are some of the places neighborhoods form around, as well as special areas like C.A.L.M. or Kid Village. People from a certain state or city often camp together. Contact the people in them, get to know them.

Lone campsites are easy targets for thieves, and are surprises for people walking thru the woods in the dark. Neighborhoods provide the only security for when you are not in your camp.

Love your neighbor

Rain

It takes rain to make a rainbow, and rainy days are part of every Gathering. These are times when people gather close together under tarps and have intimate conversations and good times.

Don't build anything without thinking about **how water will run off it**. Keep your stuff together in places where they will stay high and dry. When you set up your camp - look for low spots and gullies on the ground, and imagine where the streams will form when it is raining. Don't put your tent across one of these places. If you're in a desert area, don't set up camp in a dry riverbed prone to flash floods.

Don't blaze trails in ravines that will become muddy quagmires under thousands of feet when it rains - keep trails on rises. That little brook you're stepping over now can become a turbulent river in a thunderstorm. Put fire pits on rises or sloping ground, and provide a drainage gap.

Cover tents with tarps, and tie their ends close to the ground so the wind doesn't make sailplanes out of them. Keep kitchen supplies under cover. Cover bulletin boards with clear plastic.

Remember: water runs downhill.

Fire

On any site fire is a danger. There may be fallen and dead timber, and dry grass in meadows. *Don't throw matches or cigarette butts on the ground.*

When you build a fire, be responsible. Have a shovel and a bucket of water near your fire at all times. Use only community fires. Share your hearth with your neighbors, and don't build personal fires nearby. Use

only dead and dry wood found on the ground, for fuel.. Never throw plastics or synthetic materials into a fire. This creates toxic fumes.

Select a safe location. Watch for overhanging snags of deadwood. Keep your fire low - sparks fly far, even live trees can catch fire. If you must have a large fire, build it in a meadow, at least 20 feet from the treeline.

Beware of root fires. Line the inside and bottom of your firepit with rocks. Scrape the ground free of loose duff, leaves, and grass for at least a foot around your pit.

Watch your fire at all times. The wind can rise or shift direction quickly. Stray sparks can bring disaster. Embers can flame up again in a wind. Don't leave your camp behind until your fire is completely out and cold.

No fireworks, please!!

A Fire Watch crew walks the camp to make sure all fires are properly tended, and that buckets of water are nearby. We all help them out by being watchful ourselves.

Smokey says,

"Only you can prevent forest fires"

Technology

We welcome experiments in non-polluting and low-energy technology. Hand tools and alternative energy devices - such as solar or wind - are appropriate to a Gathering. Electric generators, chain saws, and gasoline powered tools are not. Bicycles and horses may enter a Gathering. Motorcycles and automobiles (other than emergency and supply) may not.

Main Circle

Main Circle is an open meadow, large enough for as many people as you expect to come. (At a National Gathering, this may be more than ten thousand.) It is the center of our Gathering - where the evening dinner circle and council are held, along with theatrical events like the 5th of July Pageant and the Silent Meditation on the 4th. In the center is a pit large enough to safely contain a large bonfire, open on all sides so people can dance all the way around it.

The Main Circle meadow is as free of trees as you can find, and on gradually sloping ground, with no low areas that will fill with standing water when it rains. The firepit is on a slight rise, for drainage and the fire's visibility. *Personal campsites are not set up in the Main Circle meadow, or any other meadow.* They may get trampled when people are backing up, opening a circle to include more.

Main Circle can get loud at times, as well as completely silent. Co-ordination with Kid Village and C.A.L.M. about your three places' relative locations is a good idea.

We are a circle, within a circle
with no beginning, and never ending

The whirlwind will not last the morning out;
The cloudburst ends before the day is done.
What is it that behaves like this?
The earth and sky!
And if it be that these cut short their speech,
How much more yet should man.

- Tao Te Ching 23

Council

We gather in a circle to govern ourselves at Main Council, where we find out about ongoing activities, tell each other our heartsongs, and take care of other notions. It is held every evening in Main Meadow, and announced by the blowing of the conch shell

We pass a feather (or other sacred object) around the circle, letting each person speak in turn while holding it, without interruption. Talking, listening, and sharing our deepest feelings is how we find new perspectives on each other, and new ways to solve problems.

When many people are present, an inner circle is formed (often with one person at each of the four directions), and a person leaves the circle after speaking, opening a space for another wishing to join and speak.

The exact nature of council process is determined at the beginning of the meeting. It is best conducted with a minimum of chairmanship, but someone can be entrusted, if necessary, to: keep the subject of the discussion from wandering, remind long-winded speakers of their responsibility to others who want to speak, and keep discussions from turning into emotional arguments.

Consensus

Consensus is how we govern ourselves. This means coming to solutions acceptable to everyone, not just a majority.

If we have problems, we bring them up at our circles and discuss them. During the discussion someone usually brings out an issue and asks for consensus. If no one radically objects, then consensus is reached. (This is sometimes called consensus by silence, i.e. nobody speaks after consensus is asked for.) Otherwise a person may block consensus by expressing her or his concerns and the discussion continues. Through this process we attempt to solve our problems.

Consensus gives every person a chance to be heard and have their input weighed equally. The smallest minority has a chance to change the collective mind if their vision is keener. It is possible that Spirit has given them a message that is presently beyond the perception of the rest of the council.

If people exercise this power to go against the majority, they must have listened to the collective wisdom in good conscience. *A block should not be used to place an individual's will above the group's.* Working this out can be very long and exhausting to the participants.

Consensus works in an environment of trust, where everyone suffers or gains alike from the decision. Everyone must

listen,
participate,
get informed,
be rational,
and be part of the process from the beginning.

Focalizers

Focalizers do what their name implies - they take the diverse energy among us and bring it onto a certain point. They show us directions to move, and impart to us their knowledge. They get people working together.

They are not like leaders in Babylon. They are not placed over us; nor elected for terms. They are followed because the people trust them, feel they have wisdom, find their own feelings expressed thru them, and expect success from following them. Their election continues on thru every day. A focalizer is simply not followed anymore if the people lose their confidence.

Anybody who has knowledge to share can be a focalizer. If you see something that isn't being done, take the initiative to start others to join with you. But don't volunteer for everything. When a thing needs doing, make an effort to pass the task along. Someone out there is waiting to be useful, maybe even unaware of a talent he or she has. Giving away all the right tasks may leave you exhausted - but it will save you from burning out.

Respecting consensus is important for the focalizer. Even at the price of inefficiency, frustration, and endless discussion - let the people decide. They'll get better at it with practice.

Legal Liaison

Legal Liaison is a dedicated group of people with knowledge of law, who advocate the Family in legal questions of concern to us, such as National Forest regulations, and drug, search and seizure, and homelessness laws. They testify at legislative hearings, organize letter writing and phone campaigns, and keep a watch on the workings of our government. Help from experienced lawyers and organizers is always appreciated.

शान्तिसेना

Shanti Sena

the peace keepers

We call our security system Shanti Sena. *This means "peace army" in Sanskrit.* If problems erupt, calling "Shanti Sena!" loudly will bring assistance.

We respond with **non-violent methods only** to conflict. Talking is tried before physical restraint. This talking is with compassion and respect. If physical intervention can't be avoided, it is done gently without inflicting injury.

There is a crew of people experienced in non-violent, peaceful intervention who devote most of their time to Shanti Sena, but *everybody* is a peacekeeper at a Gathering. We are secure because we all watch out for each other. If we don't stay aware of what is going on with people around us, and don't offer aid, trouble can erupt into violence and injury. Often a group can prevail where a single person can't. Offer your help in easing conflict.

We lighten the burden on Shanti Sena by:
watching out for our own valuables,
camping in groups with others, and
watching the camps of our neighbors when they are away.

We are all Shanti Sena

C.A.L.M.

the Center for Alternative Living Medicine

C.A.L.M. is our healing arts center. If you are injured or ill, come here, especially if you are getting something contagious. The people here can also provide health information and preventative aids such as condoms. Natural, alternative medicine is encouraged here. Treatment that gets to the root of dis-ease is sought, not just temporary remedies.

C.A.L.M. always need donations of medical supplies, antibiotics, herbs, tinctures, and homeopathic remedies. It needs doctors, nurses, EMT's, and therapists of all kinds - to volunteer on a continuous and on-call basis. Healers and workshop leaders can also plug in here.

Information

Information is the communication center. Anyone with anything noteworthy to share should come here so they can pass the word. All councils and focalizers should report here daily with their needs, so they can be connected with the rest of the Gathering. With enough info from all of us, the Info crew can answer questions intelligently.

Lost and Found and Rumor Control are here. Printed handouts are available on a table, and maps, rider boards, and bulletin boards are nearby.

The Volunteer Here board is near Information. People wanting to help out can find places to plug in here, and groups needing assistance can make their needs known..

The Rainbow Guide

The Rainbow Guide is a non-commercial directory of our Family, compiled and published every year by volunteers with your contributions. The Guide helps the family to connect with each other thruout the year.

The Guide crew usually bases its operations at Information. Cards are available to be filled out by those who want to be included. Every Gathering, no matter how small, can compile lists (with addresses, etc.) and relay them to the makers of the Guide.

All Ways Free

All Ways Free is a totally open forum for the diversity of ideas that make up the Rainbow. It is the Family newspaper that takes essays, stories, letters, poems, and art.

It is produced by volunteers, and supported by personal donations, regional fundraisings, and the Magic Hat. It is distributed at the National Gathering each year, and can also be obtained by writing to the AWF Council, which meets in a different region each year. (Get the current address from Information, or from the Rainbow Guide.)

Co-Operations

Most of our day to day business is focused by the Co-Operations Council, which meets several times a day. Workers and people with special knowledge are found, tools and supplies are located, those who have are connected with those who have not.

Banking and Supply coordinate thru this council. A written log of events is kept.

Every area of service needs to check in with Co-Operations daily. All plans for new camps and construction should be communicated to here, so that conflicts over land use and campsites can be avoided.

The Magic Hat

The Magic Hat goes round and round. Its magic lies in the miracles that sharing can bring. The Gathering is free, but the Hat gives everyone the chance to help with our collective need for cash. Money received is used to buy food, medical supplies, gasoline, and general necessities. By giving generously, each of us helps with our financial needs.

Money in the Magic Hat is cared for by a Banking Council of at least 3 persons. They keep written records of the amounts collected and whom it is given to - open to anyone who wishes to see them.

The Magic Hat appears at group meals, and sometimes is carried thru camp by wandering minstrels. *Beware of personal hats being called "The Magic Hat"*. It is better to give all that you intend to give early in the Gathering, than space your contributions over several days.

Supply

Donations of food and materials are pooled by all kitchens in Supply, and redistributed from there. This allows money-saving bulk purchases and helps cut down waste. Contributions from individuals are brought here. This is a major operation, requiring energy from many people.

43. Ye shall not make yourselves abominable with any creeping thing that creepeth, neither shall ye make yourselves unclean with them, that ye should be defiled thereby.

44. For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

- *Leviticus 11*

Kitchens

Food is obtained from Supply, paid for with contributions to the Magic Hat, and prepared by the helping hands of hundreds of volunteer choppers, slicers, peelers, fire tenders, stirrers, and chefs.

Serving styles and times are up to the individual kitchen councils and focalizers - some serve all day, some have specified meal times, some send all their food to Main Circle. Some offer only specialized fare like popcorn or coffee.

Food sent to Main Circle is completely vegetarian. Some kitchens may choose to serve meat at their own locations, but meat is hard to preserve in the woods, and may adversely affect those used to only vegetarian fare.

Kitchens must be kept CLEAN. There is no faster way to spread disease than to serve contaminated food. Enclose kitchens with railings, and place hand washing stations at entrances.

Volunteers in kitchens **wash their hands** before working with food. They don't work with a communicable disease. They use only clean knives and chopping boards. Work surfaces are washed with bleach water before and after use.

Everybody brings their own bowl, cup, and spoon to a Gathering, and washes them thoroughly after each use. Food is served by servers with designated tools. People do not serve themselves with their own utensils.

Supplies are not stored on the ground, but up on pallets, shelves, or logs. They are covered with a tent or tarp, for protection from the sun and rain. They aren't placed near anthills. **Pets are kept out** of kitchens, as they get into food and knock things over.

Every kitchen has a dishwashing station with four containers (usually standard 5 gallon buckets):
one for scraping into;
one with hot soapy water, for washing;
one with clear water, for rinsing; and
one with water containing 1 or 2 capfuls of chlorine bleach or vinegar - for disinfecting.

The water is watched and changed regularly. Pots and pans should not sit around dirty for hours, attracting the insect life.

Compost (garbage) pits are dug nearby for vegetable wastes. They are filled in gradually, like latrines. When the contents come up to within a foot of the surrounding ground level, they are filled in completely. A mound of dirt is left on top, to level out by itself as the garbage underneath decomposes and settles. Waste water goes into grey water pits. It is not just poured out on top of the ground.

If the flies start to have their own gathering around your compost pit,
then it's time to cover some of it up.

Kitchens constantly need firewood and water. Many make a habit of bringing a piece of wood whenever they visit a kitchen. Others, upon seeing an empty water container, will fetch water without being asked.

Front Gate

When you volunteer for Front Gate, you get to see it all come in. The parking lot crew greets the world with hugs and info. They maintain an organized and secure parking area., and make an around the clock commitment that involves:

- greeting new arrivals and giving out information,
- traffic control,
- security,
- auto repair,
- maintaining a kitchen and fire circle, and
- an active Shanti Sena.

The crew also seeks out vehicles for possible use as shuttles.

Alcohol abuse needs special attention in this area.

Front Gate and Welcome Home are frequently the most understaffed areas of a gathering. Help here is especially appreciated.

Bus Village

Bus Village is for those who come in campers or live-in busses or vans -many of our family are nomads, either part time or year-round. It has its own mini-gathering, with kitchens, councils, work crews, and Shanti Sena. It is a place where electric entertainment is allowed and appreciated.

Bus Village people are well situated to help with Front Gate and Welcome Home responsibilities.

Shuttles

Shuttles are large rugged busses or flatbed trucks, that can provide almost continuous service that is safe and reliable. Drivers need relief regularly. Riders should help with gas and repair expenses.

Welcome Home

Welcome Home is set up where a person coming from the front gate begins to enter the populated area, at the end of the shuttle ride and where most of the hike in has been completed. It provides a place for people to rest from their journey in.

New arrivals are offered tea, coffee, or water. They are give printed copies of Raps 107 and 701, reminded of how the Gathering works with volunteers, and informed of conditions peculiar to the current Gathering. The Raps and a map of the Gathering are on a sign nearby.

Joke Toll Booth

The Joke Toll Booth sometimes appears on a main traffic artery in the Gathering. All who approach it are required to tell one joke before they may pass. The jokes collected go to help the merrimentally disadvantaged find gainful enjoyment in our community.

Kid Village

Kid Village is a place for children to find other children. It has a special kitchen for them, as well as for nursing moms and pregnant women. It has shade, playthings, and people who like to play with kids. Here you can meet other parents and their little people. You can find people to leave your offspring with for a few hours.

The people here always need help with the kitchen, firewood, and water. Musicians, storytellers, and game leaders are always welcome.

Kid Village should be somewhere the sound from Main Circle at night is dampened - on the other side of a hill is best.

Keep track of your children. Know where they are and when they should meet you, or be back to your camp.

If you entrust their care to someone else, be sure you know that person to the point of having spent some time with them.

When you leave your children at Kid Village, inform others of your going and return, and leave word where you can be found, if possible.

Older children should all know how to find their home camp. They should also be shown safe areas, like Kid Village, Information, or kitchens. They should know your full name and how to describe you verbally. For younger children who can't talk well, pin pieces of paper on their backs - with their name, your name, and directions to your camp.

If your child gets lost, don't wait too long to act. If they're not in the immediate area, inform Child Search at Information or Kid Village. We need to be told quickly to do the best job, especially if it is close to nightfall.

Better safe than sorry.

Trading Circle

Many of our Family work in various crafts and bring their best work to Trading Circle to show off, or trade for other pieces that catch their eye. The mutual exchange of gifts is encouraged, money changing in the temple is not. Only barter is done here, a thing exchanged directly for another thing, or for a service performed. No money changes hands here. Using money jeopardizes our right to use public land.

Traders like to set up near the main trail, for visibility and the festival atmosphere of many people passing - but you should take care not to obstruct traffic when you set out your own wares. A wide shady spot slightly off the trail is the best place for Trading Circle.

Workshops

Workshops can be given by anyone on any subject. Large meadows are designated for workshops, and identified as such.

A Workshop Board is at Information, and workshop offerings with times and places are on it. Additional information about workshops is nearby. Workshop focalizers maintain and update all of these, and provide special materials for their own workshops.

Some popular workshop subjects are:

Sister Circle - Women gather in a secluded and safe place - to talk about their special problems, give each other support, perform rituals, and celebrate their womanhood together.

Brother Circle - The same thing, for the men.

Brother-Sister Circle - Sisters speak, brothers listen. Brothers speak, sisters listen. New perspectives are gained, common ground is found.

Heartsong Circle - People speak about the things most important to them - hopes, fears, dreams, visions - to a loving and supportive audience.

Yoga, of all kinds.

Sufi Dancing - The dances of life, a natural way to get high.

Plants, herbs, and natural healing and nutrition.

Healing - Recovery, 12 Step, co-counseling, anything to bring you back to mental health and wholeness.

Sweat Lodges

Experienced volunteers teach new ones as they lead sweat lodges - for health and pleasure. Sweating reinvigorates you by flushing built-up toxins from your body. The closeness and fellowship of the lodge provide an opportunity for prayer and song.

Sweat lodges are **solemn spaces for sacred ceremonies**. They are built with care and respect for the old ways. Some ceremonies are guided by traditional leaders and observe strict customs. Ask if there are any special observances. Don't disturb the vibrations with any behavior less than sacred.

Don't come if you have an infectious disease. Do show up with an armload of wood.

Pets

A Gathering is not a good place for a pet. Dogs fight other dogs, and kill wildlife and even other pets. All animals get into food, and leave shit all over the place. The animals themselves are stressed by the sudden changes in their environment.

Sometimes there is no place to leave your pet, so if you must bring it, be responsible for your animals. Keep them under constant watch, keep them away from kitchens, meal circles, councils, and wildlife.

Clean up their droppings.

Feel free to tie up stray dogs in shade with water.

ARF is sometimes set up as a place where pets can find refuge, medical care, shots, and healing. If your pet is injured or sick, find out its location from Information.

Photography

Always ask permission before taking a picture of any other person. This includes groups as well as individuals. There are many reasons some may not want to be photographed - they may be in trouble with

the law, they may be escaping bad situations at home, they may not want their employers to know they are hanging out with hippies - whatever the reason they don't want there to be a photographic record of their being at a Gathering.

Most people - if you ask - will gladly give you permission, and may even ask for a copy.

Booze and Other Drugs

It has long been a tradition in our Family to discourage the use of alcohol at a Gathering. Our children (that's all of us) need a safe and unthreatening place in which to celebrate. Alcohol energy can easily threaten. We respect a person's right to drink, but the Rainbow Gathering is meant to be a peace and prayer sanctuary, not a booze party.

If you are hypersensitive to drinkers, don't be a nuisance to them (or to Shanti Sena). Some gatherers are heavy drinkers in Babylon, but come to the Gathering for a chance to dry out and heal. If you are panhandled or insulted by a drunk, turn to your friends for help in dealing with them. Don't try to be a Rainbow cop.

Many of our Family are active in the movement to legalize hemp, and feel that cannabis products lead to effects much different than alcohol's, and are more conducive to good feelings between people. We let our Family to decide for themselves whether or not they want to take the legal risks.

We actively discourage giving powerful psychedelic drugs like LSD to people who don't know what they're taking, or who don't have the experience and mental stability to handle them. *Know whom you give to.* Remember also there's no guarantee on what somebody you don't know gives you on the trail. *If in doubt, spit it out.* If you observe an overdose, freakout, or other drug caused problem, contact CALM immediately.

If you are stopped by the law on the way to a Gathering, **do not consent to searches.** Your car is protected the same way a house is if you live in your car. If you observe harassment by police, stop and be a witness. If you are harassed, report it to the Co-Operations Council or to Legal Liaison.

Nudity

We accept people for what they are, and their bodies for what they are. We can open our hearts, our souls, and our buttons and zippers at a Gathering. Many like the feeling of freedom, some don't like to wear a soggy old swimsuit, many like to be cool on a hot day - whatever the reason, we are creating again an Eden where you can be naked and without shame. This doesn't mean you can't wear clothes here, you just don't have to. Latrines and bathing areas are not segregated by gender here.

Be cautious of sunburn and poison ivy if you go naked. It's a good idea to at least wear sandals. And don't space out and go into town like that.

Loneliness

Many in our Family have found deep and satisfying relationships with other Family members. Few of these sprang into being at their first Gatherings. The freely given affection, the easy conversation, and the sudden promise of openness here cause many to start searching for their one and only, to build up big expectations, and to be disappointed.

Meet people by volunteering and working with them, by making music and theater with them, by joining them in workshops and spiritual exercises. You will see them in all their moods, and really get to know them.

Be patient and give time for friendships to unfold and grow by themselves. Don't measure them against your expectations. The Spirit will show you your soul mates, if you let it. Many people will be put off by sudden propositioning, and not everyone is in the same state of wanting that you are.

Remember, if the other person says no, but you do anyway, that is *rape*, which is a crime among us as well. Just because someone is naked doesn't mean you can have a feel. *We are all worthy of equal respect.*

We are opening up in sweet surrender
to the luminous love light of the One.

Music

We make our own music here. This is a place where your creativity is encouraged to come out of the closet. Stereos, boomboxes, and radios can douse a creative spark. Our musicians perform acoustically or with only small batteries, without the distraction of canned music in the background. Bus Village is a place for electric art.

Singers, guitarists, and instrumentalists gather to jam around community fires and in kitchens. Main Circle at night is the traditional place for drumming and dancing.

Share your song with us, even if you are not used to performing. Don't sit by your tent and play for the trees. Listen to the other players, and make music with them. You'll be amazed at how good we'll all make you sound.

If you start music, respect the other musicians within earshot who have already started, especially if you are drumming. Remember that drums can carry like a rock 'n' roll amp. Don't try to compete with them, go over and join them instead.

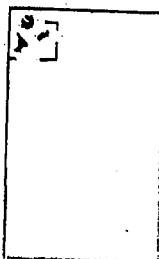
If it's late at night or early after sunrise, be conscious of folks nearby who may be sleeping.

Musical harmony plays with social harmony

Hug Patrol

The Hug Patrol covers the Gathering to insure that nobody who needs a hug goes without one. You might be stopped and asked for a hug anytime, so you should be prepared to give them your maximum cooperation.

The Silent Circle for Prayer and Healing



the purpose!...

**We gather to honor and respect
all those who have aided the positive evolution of earth and humankind.**

On the Fourth of July, from sunrise until high noon, the camp is hushed and people gather in Main Circle to meditate for **World Peace**, and the **Healing of the Earth**.

This is a time of intense energy. The silence is broken with a resonant OM after the Children's Parade enters the Circle, shortly before noon.

Please respect the silence by not speaking within earshot of the Circle.

Prepare for this with four days of celebration. Take time to share your fears, traumas, dreams, aspirations, and visions - so that the healing on the Fourth will be complete.

Regional Gatherings

In addition to the National Gathering from the 1st. to the 7th. of July, there are many Regional Gatherings thruout the year Find out about these at Information, in All Ways Free, from your regional focalizer, and on the Internet at

alt.gathering. rainbow,
www.welcomehome.org,
or in Yahoo under *Society and Culture: Alternative*

Vision Council

At Vision Council the future of the Family is discussed, and more specifically, the location is chosen for next year's Gathering. It usually starts at noon on the last day (hopefully after there's been informal discussion all week). It continues until consensus is reached among all the participants.

Clean Up

Clean Up actually begins the moment you arrive - if you don't disturb the environment to begin with, you don't have to clean it up later. If you pick up trash all along, there isn't a large amount at the end.

After the last day of the Gathering, the camp is drawn inward from the perimeters to one central camp, hence to the front gate and the parking area, then out the gate and down the road.

Campsites, bridges, and kitchens are dismantled and disappeared. Compost pits and latrines are filled and

covered with a dome of dirt, to allow for settling. Logs, rocks, and branches are scattered. Campsites are strewn with grass and leaves. Firepits are drowned with water and covered over with dirt. Paths are broken up, ground packed hard is broken up with pick and shovel, and bare spots are reseeded. Potential areas of erosion are shored up. All traces of our presence are removed. The site is returned to its natural state.

Vehicles leaving the Gathering help by taking at least one bag of trash with them, to a dumpster at least 100 miles away. *Don't impact the small towns near the Gathering.* Recyclables are taken to appropriate collection points.

In a year's time, you won't be able to tell that a small city of people lived here for weeks.

In all ways, we walk lightly on the land.

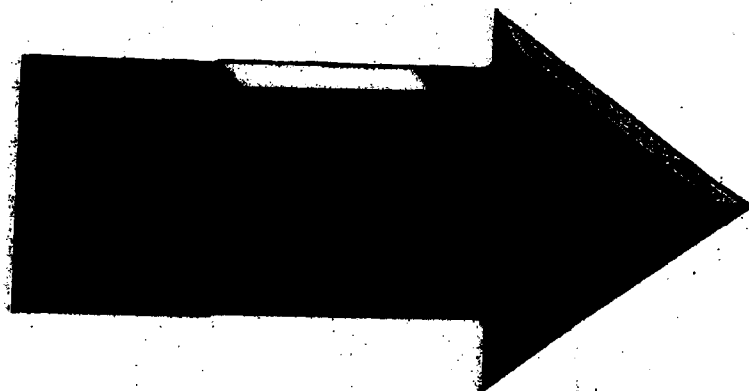
This version of the Rainbow Mini-Manual combined and reordered material from:
the MM's appearance in the '92, '93, and '94 Rainbow Guides,
the original little book distributed at Nevada in '89,
the Consensus and Focalizing articles by Stephen Wing in the '93 Guide
the Rap 107 and Child Safety article in the '94 All Ways Free,
Raps 107, 701, 151, and 911 - in several versions,
Swami Mommy's 7 Garbage Chakras,
the first Mini-Manual at www.welcomehome.org, by Paul Gross, and
things I've seen and heard over ten years of going to Gatherings.

I apologize to any uncredited authors who see their words.
I added myself several subjects that I thought needed discussion.

The next person will rearrange this, take some away, and then lay more on top. This is how the Mini-Manual is evolving before your very eyes.

- *Butterfly Bill*

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY.....



NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF LARGE GROUP ACTIVITIES ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS

*This strategy, which was presented and agreed to by the National Leadership Team, was modified to reflect a change in the 1998 IC overhead team and to update the current members of the Working Group.

TYPE OF ACTION REQUESTED: Decision on Forest Service approach to provide public safety and protect natural resources during large group activities.

BACKGROUND: At the winter National Leadership Conference the following DECISIONS were reached:

To establish a consistent national approach to managing large group activities that redeems our responsibility for the protection of life and resources, and maintains credibility with our publics. The following strategies were agreed to:

- ~ Management of Activity: The activity will be managed by a nationally appointed overhead team.
- ~ Funding: Funding for large (10,000+ people), unplanned activities with multi-regional impacts will be accomplished through a Washington Office account. The amount available is approximately \$500,000.
- ~ Law Enforcement: Enforce applicable laws and regulations, inside and outside the perimeter of the activity, commensurate with law enforcement capability and current standards/thresholds set by the affected judicial district, in a fair and consistent manner.

The team was directed to:

Identify a working group to determine a law enforcement approach with full consideration of the value of large group attendees, which protected their civil rights, and report back to the National Leadership Conference in April.

ACTIONS

The team formed a working group that discarded the notion of a law enforcement strategy and developed a Forest Service strategy that seeks to achieve resource protection and public safety. Members of the Working Group are:

John Twiss, Forest Supervisor, Black Hills NF

[REDACTED] LE&I, WO

Alice Carlton, RH&WR, WO

Jerry Stephens, Somerset District Ranger, Daniel Boone NF

Dennis Neill, Public Affairs, Region 2

[REDACTED], Special Agent, North Carolina Zone

[REDACTED], Special Agent, Missoula, MT

Highlights of the Forest Service Strategy are:

- ~ Seamlessly integrate law enforcement personnel and actions into the total management of an event.
- ~ Recognizes that large group attendees are customers who, within law and regulation, have the right to gather on the national forests.
- ~ Acknowledges the religious aspects and other Constitutional rights of large group activities.
- ~ Recommends the use of resource protection and public safety tactics like Supervisor's Orders and road checkpoints.
- ~ The Assistant Director for LE&I, Operations and Policy, will collaborate with line officers and key members of the incident command team to develop the specific enforcement tactics for a given large group activity.
- ~ Safety and effectiveness of forest personnel cannot be compromised during large group activities. As a minimum:
 - * Have in place communication systems such as radios and repeaters.
 - * Firearms and other appropriate defensive equipment will be worn and visible at all times for authorized personnel.
 - * Within the activity, personnel shall have equipment appropriate to administer the permit.
 - * Through cooperative agreements, personnel will work with local agencies to provide assistance for large group activities.
 - * "Quality Standards for Investigations," prepared by the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE), will be met.

The cornerstone of this strategy is to seek voluntary compliance to protect life and natural resources. Implementation tactics include:

Education: by distributing printed materials, forest officer contact, and at road checkpoints.

Engineering: by actions such as locating events in areas that can tolerate large numbers of people, that are away from critical wildlife habitat and cultural sites, and that have adequate vehicle access and sewage facilities. The issuance of Noncommercial Group Use permits and of appropriate Forest Supervisor closure orders aid in achieving this.

Enforcement: by law enforcement personnel when voluntary compliance cannot be achieved.

2000 INCIDENT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The National Incident Management Team objectives for Forest Service management of the 1998 Rainbow Family Gathering are:

- ☛ Promote the health and safety of Forest Service employees, Gathering attendees, area residents and other Forest visitors.
- ☛ Minimize the impact to the environment by interacting closely with the local Forest Service unit, providing information to Gathering organizers and enforcing resource laws.
- ☛ Recognize, and to the extent possible, mitigate social and political impacts to the local Forest unit, other Forest visitors and communities.
- ☛ Respect the civil rights of Gathering attendees, Forest Service employees and members of cooperating agencies in all management activities.

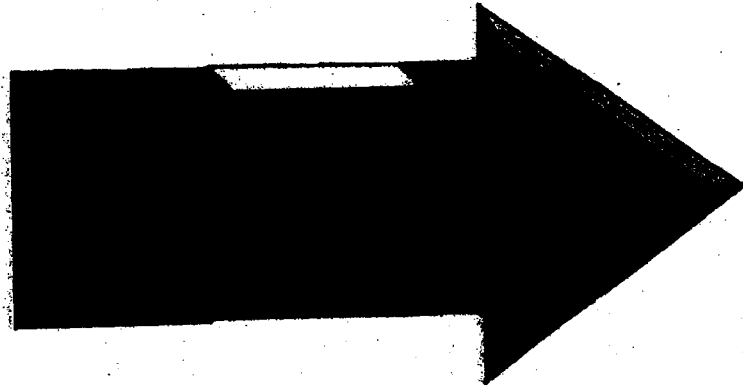
These objectives will be implemented by using a pro-active management approach in:

- ① Coordinating with the local unit, communities and Rainbow Gathering attendees.
- ② Cooperating with Federal, State and local agencies.
- ③ Enforcing applicable laws and regulations inside and outside the perimeter of activity in a fair and consistent manner. Enforcement will be commensurate with law enforcement capability and current standards or thresholds set by the affected Judicial District.
- ④ Operating in a financially responsible manner and, at a minimum, remaining within allocated budget.
- ⑤ Continually providing information, responding to the issues and concerns of state and local elected officials and the community and managing media relations in coordination with the local unit Public Affairs and line officers.

2000 Rainbow Family National Gathering Talking Points

1. The Rainbow Family of Living Light holds a National Gathering every year.
 - The Gathering site is on National Forest System lands, but the Forest Service does not know the exact location of the Gathering usually until mid-June.
 - The Rainbow Family has been holding a National Gathering for 28 years.
 - Approximately 18 to 25 thousand individuals attend the Rainbow Family National Gathering.
 - The Rainbow Family has a constitutional right to have this event along with a legal responsibility to attain the required Special Use Permit from the U.S.D.A. Forest Service.
2. The Forest Service requires a Special Use Permit for every group of 75 or more that wants to hold a meeting or event on National Forest System lands. Since the Rainbow Family Gathering usually attracts several thousand people, they must have a permit to hold a legal Gathering.
 - The Forest Service has a duty to minimize resource impacts on National Forest System lands and to ensure the health and safety of all forest visitors. This is achieved through provisions in the permit regarding sanitation, resource protection and sensitive site and species information.
 - With the exception of para-military activities, the Permit process does not interfere with the content or function of any group who wants to gather on National Forest System land. Rather, the permit authorizes the noncommercial group use subject to time, place, and manner restrictions that do not interfere with constitutional rights.
3. The Forest Service will manage the Gathering using an Incident Command Team consisting of local Forest resource managers, and professionals in law enforcement, safety and health, and community relations. Activities will include:
 - Keeping the public informed through community meetings, the media and daily updates.
 - Assign safe travel routes, enforce Forest road regulations and minimize the environmental impacts associated with parking large numbers of vehicles.
 - Protecting resources with guidance in reducing displacement of wildlife, ensuring provision of adequate sanitation, and mitigating effects to meadows and riparian areas and cultural resources.
 - Providing a visible presence within and around the Gathering to enforce laws and to assist state and local law enforcement officials if criminal violations occur.
 - Developing a rehabilitation plan and overseeing the activities of any Rainbow volunteers that remain after the Gathering to restore the site.
 - Utilizing State and local expertise in law enforcement and health and safety and providing support through cooperative agreements.

GATHERING MANAGEMENT ISSUES.....



RECURRING ISSUES:

Large events such as the Rainbow Gathering has sparked issues on many levels. These include:

Resources:

- * Compacted and eroded soil.
- * Water quality and riparian impacts.
- * Sanitation issues.
- * Sensitive archeological sites, habitat, T&E species.
- * Potential for fire danger; use of campfires on site.

Traffic:

- * Parking problems (3000 to 4000 vehicles).
- * Traffic congestion/vehicle related problems/abandoned vehicles.
- * Road degradation/erosion from heavy use.

Social:

- * Public nudity.
- * Confrontations between Rainbows and locals.
- * Increased law enforcement related problems in various jurisdictions.
- * Communications with the locally impacted community.
- * Impacts to local medical services providers.
- * Relationships between the local unit and the affected community, nearby residents and American Indian Tribes.
- * Local and national media coverage.

Internal:

- * Significant time and financial impacts on the Forest and District are likely in the areas of:
 - Resource work - site rehabilitation planning and implementation.
 - Assistance in appropriate community contacts.
 - Increased need to provide information to potential Forest visitors.
 - Guidance with local agreements and MOU's.
- * Diverse opinions among employees about the Gathering and Forest Service management activities.
- * Communications with employees; rumor control.

RELATED LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

Bloodborne Pathogens: Some subjects encountered at past gatherings have been found to have HIV, hepatitis, and other communicable diseases. Law enforcement personnel take the necessary precautions when dealing with subjects at Rainbow Family gatherings.

Weapons: The Rainbow Family states they will not tolerate or allow firearms within the gathering. However, reports of large numbers of firearms were received and firearms were seen at past gatherings. Many of the Rainbow Family members wear hunting type knives while at the gathering. Subjects have pulled knives on law enforcement personnel and threatened them in the past.

Interference and Civil Disobedience: Some Rainbow Family members routinely attempt to interfere with the actions of law enforcement personnel. This is particularly true when officers are attempting to cite or take subjects into custody. In the past, large groups of individuals have circled law enforcement personnel and attempted to interfere with their actions. Officers need to consider this when attempting to take law enforcement action where large groups of people are present.

Fugitives: Fugitives from justice are routinely found at Rainbow Family gatherings. Subjects with active warrants for homicide, sexual assault, assault, theft, drug violations, etc. have been found at past gatherings. Law enforcement personnel could contact these types of individuals and should take the necessary precautions.

Juvenile Runaways: Rainbow Family gatherings attract a large number of juveniles, and many are runaways. During gatherings, law enforcement personnel receive hundreds of reports from agencies throughout the country regarding juvenile runaways. In the past, the Rainbow Family has cooperated with law enforcement in attempts to locate these juveniles.

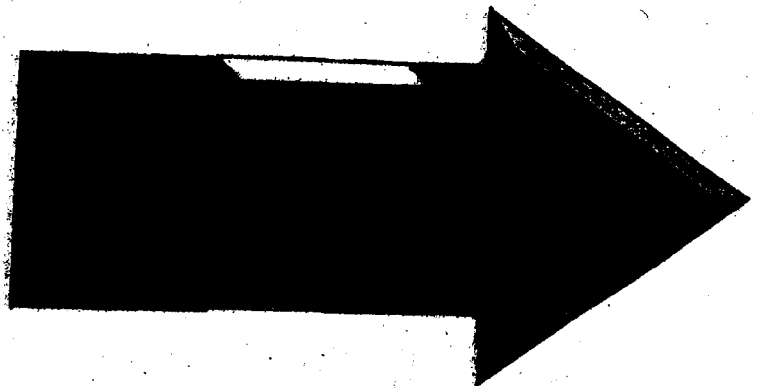
Stolen Vehicles: Each year stolen vehicles are recovered and subjects arrested at Rainbow Family gatherings. Law enforcement personnel may encounter stolen vehicles during routine traffic stops and enforcement actions.

Sexual Assault: Sexual assault has occurred at Rainbow Family gatherings in the past. Sexual predators have been found at these gatherings and some of the reported assaults have involved minors.

Controlled Substance Violations: Significant amounts of controlled substances such as marijuana, LSD, methamphetamine, illegal mushrooms, prescription drugs, and others are present at Rainbow Family gatherings. Barter Village is where drugs are commonly traded among gathering attendees. Law enforcement personnel could encounter individuals experiencing drug overdoses or vehicles carrying illegal substances.

Vehicular Violations: All types of vehicles will arrive at the gathering in all types of conditions, including buses, vans, trucks, automobiles, motorcycles, etc. DUI is a particular concern to law enforcement during these gatherings along with alcohol related violations and drug impaired drivers. Unsafe and abandoned vehicles are common. Motor vehicle accidents, including fatal accidents, have occurred in the past.

ABOUT THE INCIDENT TEAM.....



2000 NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM

██████████ - INCIDENT COMMANDER

Bill is currently a Forest Service ██████████ responsible for the operations and enforcement program in Region One. He has worked for the Forest Service for 25 years. Part of that time was spent in fire, minerals and the management of Wild and Scenic River Programs. ██████████ also served as a Park Ranger with the National Park Service for three years. Over the years ██████████ has had extensive experience with the Incident Command System. He was assigned to Operation Linebacker along the Mexico border on the Cleveland National Forest and reorganized that effort into an ICS style program. He then served as the Incident Commander for Operation Linebacker. Year 2000 will ██████████ third year as Incident Commander for the National Rainbow Family Gathering.

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SHARON SWEENEY - INFORMATION OFFICER/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Sharon has worked for the Forest Service since 1976 in a variety of resource positions. She is currently the Assistant Public Affairs Officer on the Malheur National Forest in R-6, and has red card qualifications as a Type 1 Information Officer. Sharon worked on the incident team that managed the 1997 National Rainbow Family Gathering in central Oregon, and has worked other major incidents from Florida to California.

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GENE SMALLEY - SAFETY OFFICER

Gene has 24 years of service with the Forest Service. His current position at the Jackson Ranger District on the Bridger-Teton National Forest includes responsibilities for Range, Wildlife, Watershed and Special Uses. After completing the courses at FLETC, Gene was also a collateral duty Level IV Law Enforcement Officer on the Bridger-Teton for nine years. He is a certified EMT in Idaho, Wyoming and Nevada and has been a CPR Instructor for both the American Red Cross and American Heart Association. Gene has been a Safety Officer on Type I and Type II Teams since 1982 and is also qualified as a Security Manager and Fire Investigator.

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██████████ - OPERATIONS SECTION CHIEF FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

██████████ is currently a ██████████ on the LE&I Enforcement and Liaison staff in the Washington Office. She has worked for the Forest Service for 21 years, including many years as a forester working in recreation, special uses, fire and timber. She has worked in three regions and at all levels of the agency. ██████████ has a wide variety of experience with the Incident Command System including fire, law enforcement, search and rescue and international security operations at the Atlanta, GA, Olympic Games. For the last three National Rainbow Family Gatherings, ██████████ was assigned to the National Incident Command Team as the Deputy Operations Section Chief.

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DEBBIE WHITMAN - PLANNING SECTION CHIEF

Debbie's 25 years with the Forest Service include a variety of timber related assignments. She is currently Timber Management Officer on the Six Rivers National Forest in California. She also served a four month detail as District Ranger on the Klamath National Forest. Debbie's incident qualifications included a variety of operations, logistics, planning and finance positions. She is currently a Type II Planning Section Chief on a Interagency Type II Team.

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GARY SICK - LOGISTICS SECTION CHIEF/FINANCE/BUDGET SECTION CHIEF

Gary works at the Savannah River Institute in South Carolina as the Soil, Air and Water Program Manager. He has been with the Forest Service for 24 years, mostly in Region 8 in Mississippi, Arkansas, Michigan and Georgia. Gary has served with IC teams in various roles including Logistics Chief on fire, hurricane and search and rescue incidents. He has been the primary Supply Unit Leader for the Southeast Interagency Team since 1984. Gary also worked with FEMA as an ICS facilitator during Hurricane Marilyn in the Virgin Islands.

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LARRY WADE - COMMUNICATIONS UNIT LEADER

Larry spent 23 years in the Navy before joining the Forest Service. He has worked as a Forest Telecommunications Specialist during his 16 years with the Forest Service and is currently the Radio and Frequency Manager for Region 8. Larry has red card qualifications as a Communications Unit Leader and previous experience at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise as Command Duty Officer Radio Technician.

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