

Dilemma Derby - Iowa Dilemma Cards

DILEMMA 1: Your Uncle, an experienced fisherman, has taken you ice fishing. The temperature plummets while you are out, and the hole begins to freeze up. Your Uncle takes out a bottle of antifreeze to pour down the hole to open it up. You have heard that pets can die from drinking antifreeze. What do you do?

1. Let him pour it in without comment, after all, he has been doing this for a long time, and must know if it is all right to use.
2. Ask him to stop and volunteer to keep the hole free of ice manually.
3. Tell him that you are too cold, and would rather fish another day.
4. Watch him do it, and ask your folks later about it.
5. Other?

DILEMMA 2: Your parents have given you the responsibility of managing the lawn this summer. You notice creeping charlie, and several dandelions in the yard. What do you do?

1. Mow the weeds along with everything else, and not worry about them in particular.
2. Call a lawn treatment company, and have them come out to treat the lawn a couple of times each month.
3. Pick the dandelions to use in salads, and sell the rest to the local health foods store.
4. Although it takes an extra three days each month, dig up the dandelions and pull up all of the creeping charlie.
5. Other?

DILEMMA 3: You are out walking with your family in a local preserve. You are ahead of your family when you hear some strange noises. Upon investigation, you see a local apartment owner disposing of several old appliances in the stream. This person is a well-respected and politically powerful community member, who could make your family miserable if they were angry with you. What should you do?

1. Run back to your family and steer them in another direction to avoid the conflict.
2. Run back to your family, bring them to the site, and let them decide how to approach this person.
3. Go tell your family and convince them to go get the park ranger to deal with it.
4. Approach this person on your own and ask them what they are doing, hoping that they will not recognize you.
5. Report it to your local news media anonymously, and hope that they will take care of it.
6. Report it to a local lawyer hoping that the lawyer is not connected with this person.
7. Other?

DILEMMA 4: You move into a new development that has a stream running through it. Some native vegetation on the bank that runs through your yard, but the neighbors have all chosen to mow right up to the edge of the stream. A neighbor comes over and comments on how nice it is that everyone is mowing off the “weeds” and hopes you will follow suit so that all the yards look the same. What do you do?

1. Mow all the way to the stream so as not to infuriate your new neighbors.
2. Mow all that way to the stream, because although you know it will cause erosion, you think it looks so much nicer and cleaner.
3. Leave a buffer for the birds and animals and not worry about what your neighbors think.
4. Leave a buffer and put up a privacy fence so that the neighborhood will not have to look at it.
5. Try to educate your neighbors in stream conservation practices.
6. Mow the natives, but replace them with some fancy landscaping that you hope will do the same job and be acceptable to the neighbors.
7. Other?

Dilemma Derby - Iowa Dilemma Cards

DILEMMA 5: You have been invited to go boating with some new friends. When you get out onto the lake, everyone decides that the gum they have been chewing has lost its flavor. Your friends decide to get new pieces, and spit their old ones into the water. What do you do?

1. Figure it is just a little bit, no harm done and spit your in as well, because you don't want to make waves with your new friends.
2. Secretly get a net and fish theirs out to dispose of it properly.
3. Ask them to stop because it could have a detrimental effect on the fish, and have them help get it out of the water if possible.
4. Other?

DILEMMA 6: Your neighbors have two little kids who look up to you. They invite you to go fishing and will be very disappointed if you don't go. You have just turned 16, and do not have the required license, and you are short the money that it costs. What do you do?

1. Ask to borrow some money and have them stop to get the license on the way.
2. Forget about the license and lie about your age if you are caught.
3. Go with them, but only help the younger ones, do not fish yourself.
4. Tell them you cannot go this time, but when you have enough money to get a fishing license, you will go with them.
5. Other?

DILEMMA 7: The large pond behind your house is infested with Eurasian Milfoil, an invasive species. Your family is planning a trip to Pine Lake for the weekend of the 4th-of-July, and is discussing taking the canoe. You know that the state is trying to prevent the spread of this species and that by taking your canoe you could introduce Eurasian Milfoil into Pine Lake, but your family is not convinced there is a problem. What do you do?

1. Remind your family that there are canoes for rent at Pine Lake, and it would be easier than hauling the canoe all the way there.
2. Stay out of the discussion, but go out and scrape the bottom of the canoe the best you can before you leave, and hope for the best.
3. Try to convince them that taking the canoe is not a good idea because of the Eurasian Milfoil, and show them data that you have collected from the web and other sources.
4. Somehow, put a hole in the boat and make it known that it leaks right before the trip so it cannot be taken.
5. Other?

DILEMMA 8: You and some friends are at a State Park on a beautiful fall day. You are very thirsty and leave the group to get a drink. As you approach the drinking fountain, you see someone rinsing a dirty cloth diaper in it. Aside from the fact that you no longer want a drink, what do you do?

1. Walk away. Try to settle your now uneasy stomach, but not say anything to your friends for fear of really grossing them out.
2. Go and tell your friends in hope that they will come back and approach the person with you to tell them what a bad thing that is to do.
3. Follow the person to find out their license plate number. Report the number to a park ranger.
4. After the person is gone, get some paper towels or rags out of your car, and try to wash it as best you can.
5. Approach the person and ask them to use the rest room for this, or ask them to throw it away, and ask them to clean it up.
6. Other?