

Denver Safety & Leader Newsletter

Fourth Quarter 2014

A communication for CMC Denver Leaders



Published by CMC Denver Safety and Leadership Committee

LEADER RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION

OPEN TO ALL TRIP LEADERS/SR. INSTRUCTORS/ TRIP LEADER SCHOOL GRADS

Social Hour/Beer/Wine/Soft Drinks/Pizza

6:30-9:00 Program, Conference Rooms, AMC, Golden

NO FEE BUT YOU NEED TO MAKE RESERVATIONS AT CMC.ORG/EVENTS, NOVEMBER 18

Recognition of Trip Leaders

Summary of 2013/2014 Accidents/Incidents

Change in Hiker Registration Process

Leader Scholarship Funding Trial Program

Backcountry Winter Trip Leader Avalanche Education

The Denver Group Council has voted to change trip participant registration for hikes. Effective January 15, 2015 any member may register for any hike. Hikes will continue to be classified but participants will no longer need to have a hiker classification equal to or greater than the hike offered. Leaders continue to be able to set prerequisites for their hikes and to screen participants. The program will aid leaders to learn screening techniques and illustrate expanded hike descriptions. This change in hiker registration requirements is only applicable for hikes; snowshoe, ski, fly fishing and climbing trip registration requirements have not changed.

NON CLIMBING LEADER'S KNOT TOOLBOX

Date: November 3rd & 10th

Time: 6:45-9:00 PM

Location: Conference Rooms, AMC Golden

Need to know a couple of basic knots while hiking? Maybe you've had to tie a hiker's pack onto yours, or a tarp needs to be secured to a tree. The Knot Seminar will address basic knots most needed by non-climbing leaders. Register on line at cmc.org, Denver, classes, adult education members. Contacts: Dave Covill @ 303-517-0355, DaveCovill@gmail.com or Dave Pellegrini 303-910-7140, David7324@Mac.com



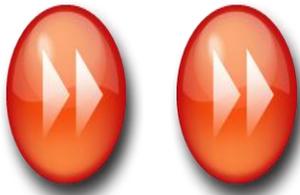
WFA INSTRUCTORS NEEDED



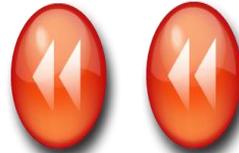
Wilderness First Aid Training (WFA) is offered four times throughout the year and is required for all leaders. To do so, Assistant Instructors are needed to support the hands-on scenarios and student practice sessions. Carol Giffen, School Director, needs Assistant Instructors whether you have a medical background or are simply interested in supporting this important school. Contact her at: cgbmeup1@gmail.com

WFA RECERTIFICATION

Until now there was no recertification class offered and previously certified leaders re-enrolled in the basic WFA School. Carol Giffen, WFA Director, now has a one-day recertification program authorized by Emergency Care and Safety Institute (EMCI) the certifying organization. The recertification training is primarily hands-on training; leaders should review the Wilderness First Aid Manual, Third Edition. Successful completion of a written quiz is a component of the program offered November 16 at AMC Golden. Register on line at cmc.org, Denver, classes, adult education members. Assistants who have previously renewed their WFA training are needed for first aid scenarios. Contact: Carol Giffen at cgbemup1@gmail.com



LOOK FORWARD
LOOK BACKWARD



Trip leaders are always looking forward – looking forward to planning and scheduling a trip; looking forward to new participants, new routes, new challenges. When leading from the front of a group, leaders look forward to the trail conditions, obstacles, etc. BUT, leaders need to look backward also to see how far back the rear leader is, to see whether there is a larger gap between participants than anticipated, to be certain no participants, including the rear leader, has taken an alternative trail. In fact, it is the entire group’s responsibility to look back occasionally to be certain participants are within sight. Leaders can explain this to participants at the beginning of a trip.

Explaining to participants that the group will stop at signed trail junctions is also a proven technique to keep the group together. Stopping at signed trail junctions also allows the trip leader to check in with the rear leader as to any issues observed by the rear leader.

Setting expectations at the beginning of a trip as to pace, terrain to be encountered, stream crossings, breaks, trail junction gatherings, lunch duration, etc can result in greater satisfaction for trip participants and the leader whether the trip has been scouted or is an exploratory trip.

TRIP REGISTRATION & COMPLETION

When leaders schedule a trip the Status selected is APPROVED. When the trip is completed, leaders need to go to the trip’s EDIT function and change the status to COMPLETE then scroll to the bottom of the screen and click on UPDATE. The leader should then click on ROSTER to adjust any participants who did not show (NO SHOW) or canceled by calling or e-mailing the leader prior to departure. Once those steps have been completed, the leader can fill out the 3 boxes at the bottom of the roster asking for Activity Hours, Access Problems, Experience.

If the trip was canceled due to lack of participants or other situations, then the leader needs to change the status to CANCELED and click on UPDATE at the bottom of the screen.

Reviewing Denver trips from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014 found over 200 trips that retained an APPROVED status although the trips had either been completed or canceled.

Because a component of the Scientific & Culture Fund District (SCFD) grants use the activity hours generated by each trip, it is of financial importance to have leaders update a trip’s status

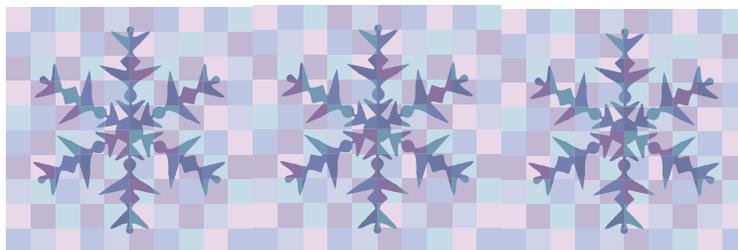
from Approved to Complete, or Canceled, after the trip has ended. Thanks for your cooperation. If leaders have any questions about scheduling or completing a trip, please contact Membership Services Representatives or Brenda Porter, Volunteer & Membership Experience Director at 303/279-3080 X2.

2015 YEAR OF THE MOUNTAINEER/RMNP CENTENNIAL

Thanks to many leaders statewide over 80 trips have been scheduled, including the Mexican Volcanoes trip, as part of the 2015 Year of the Mountaineer program. Although a few trips were canceled in early September due to lack of registrants, the program is rolling forward. Volunteers are still needed to lead 100 of the 125 RMNP Named Peaks; most leaders who have already scheduled peaks have set dates in 2015. Hats off to Dave Covill who bagged 3 named peaks in one day in the Never Summer Range – Neota, Thunder & Lulu on September 28th.

Any leader who leads 100 miles of trail in RMNP will receive a pack tag with the CMC logo & RMNP Centennial Logo stating “I Led 100 in the 100th Year”. Participants who hike 100 miles of trail in RMNP will receive a pack tag with the CMC logo & RMNP Centennial logo stating “I Hiked a 100 in the 100th Year”. RMNP Centennial & 2015 YOM banners are available to leaders for photo opportunities as well as general pack tags for distribution to members. Contact Linda Lawson at lkl14er@comcast.net.

The 2015 YOM Speaker Series has also been kicked off with three events held recently. Mary Taylor Young author of “RMNP The First 100 Years” spoke to members and the general public on September 14th in Golden. The Fort Collins Group hosted a presentation on Enos Mills, the Father of Rocky Mountain National Park on September 24th. “Brogan, Coloradans Return to the Roots of Climbing on Mt Logan” was held October 16th. Look for additional speakers on cmc.org under the YOM drop down menu under ALL EVENTS.



SNOW REPORTS

Here are a few snow/winter weather reports. Let us know if you have a favorite.

www.onthesnow.com – ski resort weather forecast & results

www.opensnow.com – forecasts and reports by state or location

www.snowforecast.com – most snow by mountains and resorts

WILDERNESS MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE

Limit of 12 heartbeats:

Indian Peaks*, James Peak, Byers Peak, Vasquez Peak, Comanche Peak, Cache La Poudre, Neota, and Rawah Wilderness Areas

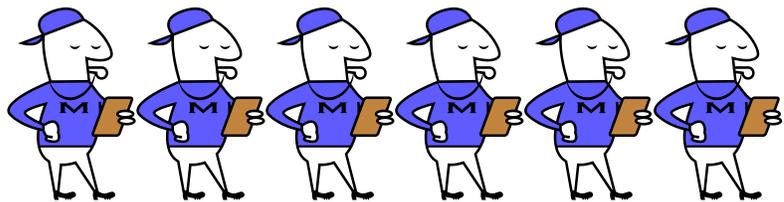
*Permit required; call Boulder Ranger District (303/541-2500) to obtain permit by mail; allow 2 weeks notice; only one organized group allowed in each zone per day.

Limit of 15 heartbeats:

Eagles Nest, Mount Evans, Ptarmigan Peak, Lost Creek, and Never Summer Wilderness Areas

Rocky Mountain National Park Group Size

A RMNP Ranger contacted during the summer reported there are no limits on group size when hiking in the Park; however, leaders will want to consider the size of the group and the group's ability to stay together on and off trails when hiking, snowshoeing and climbing. During the RMNP Centennial period, it is recommended group size be limited to 12.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Avalanche Education

CAIC issued its first report of the snow season October 1st; regular avalanche observations and forecasts resume November 1st.

Avalanche Terrain Avoidance Seminar (ATA) – 3 hours – November 13, January 8, February 5;
Optional Field Trip November 15, January 10, February 7

AIARE Level 1 School – 24 hours

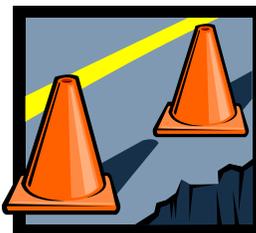
Session 1 February 6, 7, 8 – lectures in Empire, field work at Berthoud Pass

Session 2 March 4 & 5 – lectures at AMC in evening; March 7 & 8 lectures in Empire, field work at Berthoud Pass

50% Tuition Scholarships for Leaders are again available for AIARE Level 1.

On-line registration is open for ATA November session and for both AIARE sessions.

NOTE: This is the fourth year of a five-year “grandfather” period for leaders certified prior to September 30, 2011. Leaders certified prior to that date have until September 30, 2016 to complete ATA if they wish to lead non-backcountry trips in the winter or to complete AIARE Level 1 if they wish to lead backcountry trips in the winter.



Twin Tunnels & Guanella Pass Road Construction

Leaders are advised to check with CDOT for current information. Call 511 or 303/639-1111. CDOT also allows you to subscribe to e-mail & text alerts about accidents & travel times in various areas. For Smart Phone or I-Phone users, there is a free mobile application called **CDOT Mobile**. To download CDOT Mobile, simply text “CDOT” to 25827 or search CDOT Mobile in your App Store.

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