



Kitsap Stewardship Leader Requirements



Kitsap Conservation & Stewardship Committee

Applies to the leader of trips engaged in conservation and/or stewardship activities such as habitat restoration, vegetation plantings, invasive species removal, public education and awareness, interpretive tours, and citizen science data collection. The holder of the Stewardship Leader badge **may not** lead activities that encompass trail maintenance which includes crosscut sawyer work or other activities that require specific skills and/or certifications. Those activities are included in the Trail Crew Leader Requirements.

- Must be a current Mountaineers member.
- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Hold valid first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certifications.
- Completion of a Mountaineers leadership class or equivalent is required within one year of Stewardship Leader appointment.

QUALIFICATIONS:

The holder of this badge has participated in previous Mountaineers stewardship activities and demonstrated sound judgment, strong leadership skills, and technical proficiency in the following:

- Leave No Trace (LNT) principles.
- Group leadership and demonstrated knowledge of the Mountaineers policies, processes, and requirements for leading an activity, and responding to incidents and accidents that might occur during an activity.
- Awareness of what the requirements are for a specific type of activity.

Prospective leaders will participate in two mentoring activities with a qualified Stewardship Leader.

- During the first activity, the leader-in-training will serve as an Assistant Leader with the mentor functioning as the Primary Leader.
- For the second activity, the leader-in-training will serve as the Primary Leader with the mentor acting as an Assistant Leader. The prospective leader will choose the activity, post, manage, and close it on the Mountaineers website, handle logistics, and communicate necessary details with the participants and, if needed, with the partnered organization. At the end of each activity, the mentor and the leader-in-training will review feedback from the participants.

Important leadership knowledge includes the following:

- Maintenance of a safe work environment throughout the activity, which includes a familiarity with the emergency action plan for the activity's location.
- Identification of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for a particular activity that may include eye protection, work gloves, long-sleeved shirt, long pants, and sturdy boots.
- Communication via two-way radios.

COMPLETION

Once the leader-in-training has completed the above, the Stewardship and Conservation Advisory Team will review the qualifications of the prospective Stewardship Leader and award the club badge as appropriate. This badge will allow the new leader to create and lead stewardship activities and courses for The Mountaineers. To remain in good standing, a Stewardship Leader is expected to lead at least one activity every two years.