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LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



Welcome,

Summer is a busy time of year at The Mountaineers. This month alone, we offered an incredible 348 trips - that averages out to more than 11 trips a day! Thanks for all that you do to help our members safely enjoy the Pacific Northwest (and beyond!).

In this edition of LeaderLines, we invite you to apply to represent The Mountaineers at the annual [Wilderness Risk Management Conference](#), we highlight a technical issue with many DeLorme InReach devices, and we provide several tips and tricks to set better expectations in advance of your next trip. We hope that you're able to take a few minutes to relax and enjoy all of this content in between one of your many adventures!

Happy Trails,

Sara Ramsay & Nick Block
Education Department



Leader Spotlight: Lonny Moore

Leader Spotlight is a monthly blog to showcase our incredible volunteer leadership at The Mountaineers. Meet this month's featured leader: Lonny Moore. He is a 6-year member with our Kitsap Branch who co-chairs the Basic Climbing Course, enjoys helping to train new leaders, and loves to wear Leader Yellow.

[Read More](#)



Apply to attend WRMC on behalf of The Mountaineers!

The Wilderness Risk Management Conference (WRMC) is an annual gathering of outdoor professionals that creates an unparalleled opportunity for experts from various facets of the risk management world – practitioners, administrators, insurance providers, wilderness medical professionals, equipment manufacturers, and attorneys – to convene in one place and share knowledge. If you are interested in learning more about how industry trends affect, shape, and impact our programs at The Mountaineers, this conference is a great opportunity for you to connect with other outdoor professionals and volunteers!

This year's conference is October 30 - November 1 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The

Mountaineers has reserved seven spots for our volunteers to attend, and we'd like to invite all volunteers to apply and attend on behalf of your branch! Applications are due by August 26.

[Read More & Apply](#)



Lessons Learned: Accidental SOS

Satellite SOS devices have become a standard among many Mountaineers leaders. Experienced leaders understand that things can quickly take a turn for the worst in the backcountry, and having a lifeline to civilization can make the difference between life and death. InReach communicators are one of the most popular devices on the market, and many leaders rely on these units in emergencies. They provide GPS locating and two way communication, which means rescuers have more information on how to respond.

Unfortunately, there have been many reports of the DeLorme InReach models (Garmin bought InReach in 2016) triggering an SOS while stored and not in use. This has caused many people, including members from our community, to incur fines for a false alarm rescue. Read more about this problem, learn how to test your own DeLorme InReach device, and be proactive about preventing this from happening to you.

[Read More](#)



Access & Permits: Index Town Walls & Sam Hill

This month, we're highlighting two separate land managers that are responsible for several popular locations used by our climbing and scrambling programs.

- The [Washington Climbers Coalition](#) manages [Index's Lower Town Wall and Inner Wall](#) climbing areas. Group size is limited to 12 (including instructors), and all course-related trips must be under permit.
- The [Chelan-Douglas Land Trust](#) manages the [Sam Hill](#) area, and all course-related trips must be under permit.

If you are planning a course-related trip to any of these areas, please reach out to Amanda Virbitsky at amandav@mountaineers.org at least 2-3 weeks ahead of your trip so that she can complete the required permit application(s).



Leader Logistics: Setting Expectations

Have you ever been on a trip that didn't meet your expectations? Donna Kreuger, a hike leader with the Olympia Branch, shares her tips and tricks to communicate clearly and set mutual group expectations to have a great time on any trip.

[Read More](#)

Not sure the best way to communicate with your group? As a part of our [Privacy Policy](#), both members and guests have the ability to set their profile to *viewable* or *private*. Learn more about how to change these settings, and how these settings affect visibility and pre-trip communications on our [Our Privacy Policy Explained](#) page.

Quick Hits

- **Save the date!** This year's [Leadership Conference](#) is scheduled for Saturday, December 7. Registration opens September 16!
- **New benefit for Key Leaders!** [2018 Key Leaders](#) are eligible for discounts on outdoor clothing and gear with [Outdoorly](#). Learn more and [apply today](#). (And, a friendly reminder, that leaders also get access to [all of our member benefits!](#)).

- **Understanding treaty rights in today's landscape:** The Mountaineers is partnering with Tulalip Tribes for a [one-day workshop](#) to discuss recreation and treaty rights. Space is limited, with priority registration for branch chairs, committee chairs, and our Board of Directors. General registration for all members will open on August 5!
- **Community is key** - especially when you don't see yourself as a 'typical' outdoorsperson. In [this piece](#) from Mountaineer magazine, Meryl Delena Lassen shares their experiences climbing and finding community and acceptance in outdoor spaces.
- **Climbing advocacy:** Join us as we host the Access Fund's Annual Advocacy Summit on October 11-12! Connect with other climbers and learn about topics such as climbing on Native lands, low-impact outdoor climbing, climbing and climate change, fixed anchor management, and stewardship and sustainable climbing areas. [Learn more and register!](#)
- **The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) was permanently reauthorized - but it's not actually fully funded.** Since being established over 50 years ago, more than half of its intended funding - over \$22 billion - has been diverted to non-conservation purposes. [Help us](#) achieve full funding of what is considered America's best conservation program.
- **Small changes add up.** Cut down on your plastic consumption with [reusable silicone sandwich bags](#) - you can even pack dehydrated meals and fill the bag with boiling water on backcountry trips.
- **Yikes! In this edition of Gnar Face,** hear the tale of a [truly brutal injury](#) and some serious face swelling that accompanied it. Not for the faint of heart.
- **Are you short on space but big on gear?** Join the club! In [this piece](#) from Mountaineer magazine, learn how to optimize your storage space, get organized for quick drying and packing, and even add a touch of ambiance to your gear space.
- **Monday laughs.** Beware of crafty and ["butt-shifting" bears](#).

Stay Safe Out There!

Assess and manage the risks of your adventure!

Thank you for subscribing! Follow us online:



www.mountaineers.org

The Mountaineers enriches lives and communities by helping people explore, conserve, learn about and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

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