

FIELD TRIPS

The field trips are conducted for the purpose of giving you the opportunity to practice techniques you have learned from the lectures, readings, and this manual. These are internationally accepted mountaineering techniques and will be used on many of your climbs.

Preparation:

- Sign-up. Make sure you have signed up on the website.
- Study all required material and practice what you've learned on earlier trips and at lectures. The day will go much faster and you'll learn much more. If and when information in this manual differs from *Freedom of the Hills*, the information in this manual will be followed.
- **Arrive early, be ready to start at the appointed time and plan to stay until the field trip is over.** We plan to start the field trips at the appointed time, and no one leaves the field trip early.
- **Bring All The Required Equipment:** The needed equipment for each field trip is listed on the individual instruction sheets included here and in the gear matrix. Club ropes will be used on all field trips. Mark all your equipment with your name, or initials, or a marking that will stand up to abrasion and moisture. You will be graded on your preparedness.
- Cotton is NOT allowed! Do not wear it to a field trip.
- Come equipped with your own gear. Students must have their own individual equipment, you cannot share.
- Couples, relatives, and family members will be separated on the field trips and rope teams.
- **Car Pool,** it is highly recommended. If you are driving a car to field trips (and climbs), please carry as many riders as possible. Each rider will contribute to car expenses, at the driver's discretion, up to 12 cents per mile, plus a share of park entry fees, when applicable.

At Field Trip Site:

- Follow Club Standards (see BRGCC Manual Lecture 1 material): They apply on all climbs and field trips. No pets are allowed on field trips.
- Follow The Instructions Given And Be Courteous: The techniques taught on these field trips are accepted mountaineering techniques. There may be more than one way to do some of the things taught, but the techniques have been standardized for consistent instruction and safety. The instructors on these field trips are fellow Mountaineers who are volunteering their time to teach during these practices. Listen to their advice. If there are differences, contact the field trip leader.
- Individual Field Trip Progress: At the start of each field trip you will be given your field trip book. Ensure it gets signed-off as appropriate and turned in at the end of the day. At field trips, you will be responsible for your own progress from one practice station to the next. If you think you are not as far along as you should be by mid-day, talk to the field trip leader or an instructor for advice and help.
- Pace Yourself, Be Organized and Be Patient: On some field trips you will rotate through a number of stations. It is your responsibility to attend all stations and to do so without wasting time. It is a discourtesy to the instructors and your fellow students to hold them up because you've been wasting time.
- Do Not Litter and Follow the Leave No Trace Principles: The Mountaineers have a reputation for leaving an area much cleaner than we find it. It is one of the reasons we are allowed to use these practice areas year after year.
- Keep Your Pack And Equipment With You Wherever You Go: You will need it. You are responsible for your own gear at all times.
- Lunch: There will not be a general break given for lunch. Eat when the time seems appropriate to do so.
- **Safety:** There is always a certain degree of risk in any mountaineering practice or climb. Pay attention and follow your instructors' advice. Your safety and enjoyment, and that of others, depend on your cooperation.

Departure:

- **Cleanup:** It is a practice of the Mountaineers to try and leave a field trip site cleaner than when we arrived. If you finish all the required items for a field trip and others still have activities to complete, check with the Field Trip Leader for a cleanup assignment.
- **Final Debrief:** After the field trip is complete, the leader will do a final roll call to ensure we haven't lost anyone. He will give his comments about the field trip and then will have the instructors do the same. Finally, he will open it up to the students for any comments or suggestions.
- **Departure:** No one will leave base camp or the parking area for home until the leader gives the okay. This is to ensure nobody is left behind in the woods, etc.