

## Mountaineers Trips: Expectations and Policies

- ▣ The role of the Trip Leader is to help you safely enjoy an outing always keeping in mind the welfare of the group as a whole.
- ▣ Leaders will plan the routes, will indicate required gear, and will set meet times. As a team member, you should still take responsibility to know where you are going, what to bring, and where to be. Mountaineers leaders are not “guides”.
- ▣ If you have questions, email or phone the leader. Don’t wait until sign up has closed or until the night before while you are packing.
- ▣ Leaders on more technical or strenuous trips may ask questions about your experience and skill level before allowing you on a trip, and to help you be prepared. (“Sign up with leader” or “leader permission required” options.)
- ▣ As part of a team, be prepared to assist others if needed and don’t be afraid to ask for assistance if you need it.
- ▣ If you have any medical or other condition (e.g. allergies, asthma, etc.) that might affect your participation on the trip, inform the leader confidentially.
- ▣ We encourage carpooling and sharing of “group gear”. The leader cannot dictate or arrange carpools but can and will specify meeting times and places. The leader may specify gear but cannot dictate that you share your gear if you don’t want to.
- ▣ Each Rider should reimburse the driver approximately 12-15cents per mile– the cost of operating a vehicle is greater than gas alone. (If there are 3 riders, then the driver is being reimbursed at a nominal rate close to what many companies use.)
- ▣ The trip leader may ask for input but he/she has the final say on any decision involving safety, route, return time, etc. He/she may also refuse a participant if that person is unprepared or exhibits problem behaviors.
- ▣ Cancellations can be a big headache for leaders and participants!! Don’t sign up unless you are sure you can go. If you must cancel, do so asap before registration is closed so someone else can take your place. If you must cancel last minute, **phone the leader.**
- ▣ Leaders may cancel or move a trip at the last minute if weather or snow/trail conditions are expected to be poor.
- ▣ Pets (except service animals), firearms, and illegal drugs are not allowed on Mountaineers trips. (Marijuana is still illegal on federal lands.)
- ▣ Alcohol is not to be used if it will compromise safety or the enjoyment of the whole group. (Talk with your trip leader if any questions.)