

Tacoma Hiking & Backpacking Committee Leader Information

Steps to Becoming a Hike Leader

1. Attend a New Hike Leader Seminar.
2. Submit Hike Leader Application online.
3. Committee leadership will contact you for the next steps.
4. Required courses:
 - a. WFA, MOFA or Trail Emergency Preparedness*
 - b. Navigation or Staying Found
5. Successfully lead a mentored hike.
6. Receive final committee approval.

We request that you go on at least 3 Mountaineers hikes prior to mentored hike.

*WFA or MOFA must be taken within first year of Hike Leader certification. Trail Emergency Preparedness is a condensed course to get you going with basic knowledge while awaiting WFA or MOFA certification.

Steps to Becoming a Backpack Leader

1. Become a Hike Leader (see above).
2. Successfully lead a mentored backpack trip.
3. Receive final committee approval.

We strongly encourage that you go on multiple Mountaineers backpack trips prior to mentored backpack trip, but this may be waived upon demonstration of significant experience with backpacking and/or leading Mountaineers trips in other skill areas.

Additional Hike & Backpack Leader Information

To maintain Hike Leader badge, Hike Leaders must:

1. Lead at least two hikes for the committee each year
2. Be in adequate physical and mental condition to properly lead each hike scheduled.
3. Meet and follow the Minimum Clubwide Standards for Hiking and Backpacking as outlined on the Mountaineers website.

To maintain Backpack Leader badge, Backpack Leaders must:

1. Lead at least one backpack trip for the committee each year.
2. Be in adequate physical and mental condition to properly lead each backpack trip scheduled.
3. Meet and follow the Minimum Clubwide Standards for Hiking and Backpacking as outlined on the Mountaineers website.

Committee will reimburse up to 50% of WFA or MOFA course for New Hike Leaders. To qualify, you must lead 3 hikes within 12 months of becoming a leader.

Thank you for your interest in leading hikes for Tacoma!