



The  
**Mountaineers**

LEADERLINES

**Welcome to LeaderLines,**

In this edition of LeaderLines, a monthly eNewsletter written especially for Mountaineers volunteer leaders, we share some timely info about permits, some new and improved ways to share trip beta on our website, and an important new resource we're calling [2017 Public Lands Bills: A Legislative Trail Map](#).

As always, all of this applies to someone, but we don't expect everyone one to be interested in all of it. Take a look and see what applies to your unique role in The Mountaineers - or your life in general.

We [welcome your suggestions](#) for future story ideas and thank you for all the ways you support our mission.

**Happy Trails,  
Mountaineers Staff**

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**Summer is coming! What you need to know about permits at Mount Rainier and North Cascades National Parks**

### **New Backcountry Permit System in North Cascades**

Wish you could have reserved the Sahale Glacier camp in advance instead of crossing your fingers at the ranger station at 7am? Now you can! North Cascades is piloting a reservation system this season for popular areas like Cascade Pass, Copper Ridge, and major climbing areas. First-come, first-served permits

will still be available (40% reserved for walk-ins), but this system can help you plan ahead to secure campsites.

Reservation requests open March 15 and end March 31. These reservations are for the summer season, which runs May 15 - September 30. Application processing will begin April 1 and is estimated to take a few weeks. A \$20 non-refundable fee is associated with reservations. Any reservations submitted after April 1 will be processed in the order received. Learn more about the lottery permit system from our friends at [Washington Trails Association](#) and check out the [North Cascades National Park](#) page.

### **Mount Rainier Permit Request?**

Last year Mount Rainier had a first-come, first-served policy for all backcountry permits. They've reinstated their reservation system this year, and starting March 15 you can make reservation requests for wilderness permits online. [Read more.](#)

### **Mountaineers Policy for Reserving Routes/Places**

As most leaders know, we have a [Mountaineers Outdoor Ethics Board Policy](#) that dictates we only have one group on a trail or route at a time, and the group shall be no larger than 12 people. The most common place we run into confusion around this issue is related to overlapping two-day climbs. For example, one leader will have a climb scheduled for June 3-4, and another leader will want to climb June 4-5. The second leader asks, "We aren't technically on the upper portion of the route on the same day, so why is the website blocking me from listing my trip? The answer is: The policy was not created for climbs specifically, rather it's goal is to prevent having two Mountaineers groups worth of cars at the trailhead and people on the trail/general camp area at the same time - which inevitably happens if we make exceptions based on route specificity. Thanks for your understanding!



### Resources Folder on Routes/Places

We added folders to Routes & Places to store downloadable customized maps, GPS tracks, and more. Can you help us populate and curate them?

All outdoor adventurers are keen to find good beta for the next adventure. Sometimes a simple, downloadable map customized for the trail or route is enough. Other times we want tracks to follow when traveling in questionable terrain. There is no shortage of private and public collections of maps and tracks online, but we want to make these materials more accessible to you. Starting at the end of February all routes and places now have a link to a form to upload resources to each location. These resources will be approved by Jeff Bowman and a crew of volunteers to ensure they have a title and summary that make it easy to identify. Now that we have the functionality, we need your help crowdsourcing the information! [Learn more.](#)

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### Add awesomeness to your Trips Reports with pics

The best trip reports have photos to provide detail and inspiration. All photos can be added to the main Trip Report section using the little image of a tree to upload them. Confused? [Check out](#) our blog for a complete breakdown.

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### 2017 Public Lands Bills: A Legislative Trail Map

2017 greeted outdoors lovers with a dizzying flurry of public land bills - most of which are quite troubling. Here's an overview of the 2017 legislation we're tracking, and how we can stand together to protect our public lands. [Learn more.](#)

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### Quick Hits

- **Stewardship:** Looking for stewardship opportunities for you or your students? We have a ton coming up. [Sign up and get out.](#)
- **Website Updates:** You can now [buy Mountaineers merchandise](#) online! Check out the t-shirts, hats and glasses. Other notable website improvements include our online lodge reservation system, new tagging capabilities for events, and a "Resources" tab for route information connected to routes and places. [Check out](#) all the details.
- **Know before you go:** [Most Common Missteps](#) in Avy Terrain.
- **Happy Anniversary Tom!** Our "new" CEO, Tom Vogl, is celebrating his 1-year anniversary with us. He was [recently featured](#) by [The News Tribune](#). Keep up the good work Tom!
- **PLBs:** [Things you might not know](#) about Personal Locator Beacons.
- **3D Route Maps:** [Expedition planning](#) just got a whole lot cooler.
- **WFR Recerts:** [Renew](#) your Wilderness First Responder in time for summer adventures.
- **Progressive Climbing Education:** Last month we promised you a blog on the progress of PCE. Check it out [here](#).
- **Cliff!** Skier survives unexpected [150-foot fall](#) from cliff.

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**Leader Badges, Certs & Awards:** 2017 is off to a great start with 42 leader badges awarded in the month of January. Climbing led the way with eight badges, which is great news as we ramp up for our Basic and Intermediate courses. In addition, 50 people completed the Outdoor Leadership Course last month. This course is the first step in becoming a leader with our club, and we're thrilled to see such high participation. Last, but certainly not least, we acknowledged an additional 84 "10-plus" Trip Leaders from 2016 - thank you to all those who made so many amazing trips possible!

**Thanks You Leaders!**