



LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



Welcome,

This month, we'd like to start by taking a moment to celebrate this year's [volunteer award recipients](#), who we recognized this past Saturday at The Mountaineers annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. These award recipients are the handful of individuals who have gone above and beyond to serve their branches, as well as the greater Mountaineers community. Thanks to each of them for their dedication and commitment to the mission of our programs!

In addition, we take a moment to highlight our Low Impact Recreation badge, we offer a webinar about how inclusion impacts risk management, and we reemphasize some tools that can support our volunteers. We hope that you enjoy this month's LeaderLines!

Sara Ramsay & Nick Block
Education Department

Leader Spotlight: Nancy Lloyd

Leader Spotlight is a monthly blog to showcase our incredible volunteer leadership at The Mountaineers. Meet this month's featured leader: Nancy Lloyd. She is a 12-year member from Olympia who is always working for the weekend and her next adventure outside!

[Read More](#)



Low Impact Recreation Badge

The Mountaineers prides itself in creating a community of stewards, which means integrating mindful, low-impact recreation skills into the courses that we teach and the activities that we lead. Some of you may already be familiar with our Low Impact Recreation [video series](#), which shows how we as hikers, snowshoers, climbers, scramblers, skiers, and paddlers can lessen our impact in the outdoors while still enjoying our favorite activities. The video series is also connected to an [online quiz](#), and any member who takes the quiz and answers all of the questions correctly receives the [Low Impact Recreation](#) badge on their Mountaineers profile.

[Earn Your Badge](#)

2018 Conservation and Advocacy in Numbers:

- Our members contributed 14,000 stewardship hours to our natural places.
- We advocated on 47 public lands issues.
- We had 486 members take our online course on [Low Impact Recreation](#), receiving the associated badge!
- Our community joined over 7,500 Washingtonians to voice their support of the [Land and Water Conservation Fund](#).

- During its first month of publication, we had 157 members register for the [Outdoor Advocates Network](#) course, including 64 graduates.



Lessons Learned: What does inclusion have to do with risk management?

Within the outdoor recreation community, social and emotional risk have been increasingly considered as an important facet of risk management. In this [free webinar](#) offered by Transforming Youth Outdoors, join industry experts Ava Holliday, Aparna Rajagopal-Durbin, and Steve Smith to identify barriers and explore opportunities to integrate inclusion efforts into our risk management tools and systems. Participants will finish with a deeper understanding of how inclusion is an essential component for effective and holistic risk management!

[Learn More](#)



Leader Logistics: Supporting Volunteers

Volunteer Recruitment

It's no secret that it can be difficult to recruit new volunteers, or to encourage current volunteers to take on a new position. Learn a few tricks to [write a better job description](#) and help our volunteers find a position that they truly enjoy!

Write a Better Activity Listing

Pre-trip communication is imperative to setting a trip up for success. Ensuring that the group has complimentary goals and expectations not only makes the trip more enjoyable for everyone, but it also plays a big factor in trip safety. Learn about [how to improve the listing](#) for your next trip!

Quick Hits

- **The rules keep changing.** Two years ago, at the start of the 115th Congress, we encouraged you to speak out against a house rules change that devalued our public lands. We are happy to report that [the rule has been reversed](#) by our new Congress, showing commitment to the value of our wild places!

- **Up at 4am to go hiking?** We're not sure why, but [this](#) is the most popular thing we've shared on social media in a LOOOONG time. Go ahead and save it to share during your next alpine start.
- **Avalanche Safety.** "Since I had never been caught in an avalanche before, I had no idea how quickly the slab - after it shatters like a pane of glass - can pick up speed. I heard a deep, muffled thunk as it fractured. Then it was like [someone had pulled the rug out from under me](#), and I instantly flopped down onto the snow, losing all the precious speed I had built up. Like a startled cow, I sat there on my butt and watched the soft slab shatter into little blocks, and then the blanket of snow rocketed down the slope as if sucked downward by extra-heavy gravity."
- **Fostering Inclusion.** At The Mountaineers, we believe a diverse and inclusive outdoors inspires unity, respect, and passion for the places we love. [Learn more](#) about our Equity & Inclusion (E&I) Steering Committee, created to lead our efforts to become a place where, a century from now, future generations will recognize themselves in The Mountaineers. And, check out [this piece](#) by Glenn Nelson discussing diversity in the outdoors and a trick to use in grizzly country.
- **Earth in perspective.** See the veins of our planet mapped out with [this beautiful rendering](#) of earth's watersheds.
- **Finally, gear for all athletes.** Athletes come in all shapes and sizes - [check out](#) the companies that are creating gear with this in mind.
- **Have you taken advantage of Trailhead Direct?** The [results are in](#), and the first season of Trailhead Direct was a hit!
- **Ice, ice baby.** "To the casual observer, an ice sheet may look like a lifeless world of white. With little more than sky and frozen matter, the visual monotony can seem underwhelming. But [ice is a powerful entity](#), alive and dynamic... Inuit have hundreds of words to describe its texture, while its shape evolves into ever-changing and infinite variations."
- **New Thru-Hiking Route.** Have you heard of the [UP North Loop](#)? Created by Mountaineers Ras and Kathy Vaughn, this 2,600-mile northwest inland loop combines portions of the PCT, Idaho Centennial Trail, Oregon Desert Trail, and Pacific Northwest Trail to create a physically punishing and wildly beautiful celebration of the northwest.
- **Suffer from CBS (Cold Butt Syndrome)?** Consider a [down skirt](#).

Stay Safe Out There!

Assess and manage the risks of your adventure!

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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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