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# LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



## Welcome,

Fall is in the air, and we're busy keeping up with the changing of the seasons. Earlier this month, we invited you to register for our annual [Leadership Conference](#). Starting next week, our [Leadership Development Series](#) is back in full swing. Our community has asked us to provide more leadership development opportunities, and we're excited to continue finding new ways to connect with our volunteers.

In this edition of Leader Lines, we also highlight the importance of communication, share information about our annual permits, and launch several new [website features](#). We hope that you find this content inspiring and insightful, and that you feel refreshed and ready to dive into the fall! Thanks for all that you do in support of The Mountaineers.

**Sara Ramsay & Nick Block**  
**Education Department**

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**Leader Spotlight: Ginger Sarver**

Leader Spotlight is a monthly blog to showcase our incredible volunteer leadership at The Mountaineers. Meet this month's featured leader: Ginger Sarver. She is an active volunteer with the Olympia Branch who is most proud of her work with their Conservation & Stewardship Committee.

[Read More](#)



### **Leadership Development Series: Fall Seminars**

With the return of wetter weather and shorter daylight hours, The Mountaineers is excited to kick-off our next [Leadership Development Series](#)! The goal of these seminars is to provide high-quality, continuing education opportunities for our volunteer leaders. Check out our calendar of events to find a workshop that's of interest to you! Seminars will continue to be scheduled throughout the fall and winter.

- [Breaking the Halo](#) - Oct 3 in Seattle
- [Understanding Treaty Rights](#) - Oct 19 in Tulalip
- [Expedition Behavior](#) - Oct 29 on Mercer Island

[Full Calendar](#)



### **Lessons Learned: When Luck Runs Out**

"We both have strong personalities. Sometimes, when I state what I think is obvious like 'Do you know it's a single-color rope with a middle mark?' I get push back. Normally, I don't care. But that day I consciously chose not to say anything. His gear had been good. We climbed the route four times. He's an experienced climber. I didn't want that to ruin our day by questioning the obvious. The next thing I heard was, 'Arrgh.' I turned and he was falling."

Tracy Rekart, a friend of The Mountaineers and presenter for our leadership development programs, shares a very personal story that she hopes will change our culture of communication.

[Read More](#)



## Access & Permits: Washington Department of Natural Resources Deadline

How does our permitting with the [Washington Department of Natural Resources \(DNR\)](#) work? Staff applies for a Land Use License annually for Mountaineers activities taking place on DNR land, including:

- All fee-based trips, regardless of the number of participants. This includes all activities that are exclusively for course participants, such as field trips, SIG outings, and conditioners.
- All activities taking place on NRCA land with more than 12 participants (even if the activity is free).
- All activities taking place on State Forest land with more than 25 participants (even if the activity is free).

If you plan to run any Mountaineers activities on DNR land in 2020 that fit these permit requirements, the trips must be posted on our website by **December 17, 2019** to ensure that they are included in our 2020 application. Staff will continue to send out reminders about this deadline as it approaches. We do not anticipate being able to add additional permitted trips in 2020 after our application has been submitted.



## Leader Logistics: New Website Features

In mid-September, The Mountaineers launched several new website features to support our leaders!

- **Volunteer Hours** - Members can now review all of their volunteer hours, including new self-reported hours and hours recorded from their activities, events, and lodge stays. [Learn more!](#)
- **Committee Chair Directory** - Looking to get a list of all our climbing chairs? Wondering who to ask about hiking programs in Tacoma? Check out our new [directory!](#)

- **Cloning Activities & Events** - Course leaders can now to create multiple copies of the same [activity](#) or [event](#), where the only differences are likely to be dates and the primary leader!

Read about all of this fall's [website updates](#) on our blog!

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## Quick Hits

- **Canyon clean-up:** Join the Leavenworth Mountain Association on October 5 for a cleanup of Icicle and Tumwater Canyons! Camping is free for the first 85 attendees, and the clean-up will be followed by an afternoon of climbing, grilling, and socializing. All clean-up supplies will be provided. Get your stewardship on and [join the fun!](#)
- **It's a match!** Mountaineers donors and volunteers are joining the matching gift movement in a big way and have raised over \$278,000 through workplace giving programs since 2017. [Learn more](#) about submitting dollars and hours to double your impact.
- **A new app allows you to identify plants and animals.** Go deeper in your [exploration of the outdoors](#).
- **An Infinity Loop first:** Two PNW locals became the first women to complete the Mt. Rainier Infinity Loop! Read about Kaytlyn Gerbin and Alex Borsuk's [July adventure](#).
- **Failure isn't the end.** Read this story by Mountaineer Teresa Hagerty on failure in the mountains, and how being [cut from her first rope team](#) propelled her toward realizing her big mountain goals.
- **Rescue on Rainier:** Read this first-hand account from one of the climbers rescued in June, after a failed trip up Liberty Ridge left the party without a tent and [only half of their food rations](#).
- **Will 'Akuna' Robinson completed the Triple Crown!** Congratulations to Akuna on being the [first-known African American man](#) to accomplish this incredible feat.
- **Boxes for bluebirds:** After learning about the declining bluebird population in the 1970's, Al Larson started building, placing, and tracking nestboxes for the birds. [And he's still doing it today at 97.](#)
- **Spooky skeletons in the Himalaya:** Over 75 years ago, hundreds of skeletons were found in a remote glacial lake in northern India. Recent research has [deepened the mystery](#) of who they were, and how they died.
- **Global warming is affecting Mt. Rainier.** Learn about this rapid change, and what it [may mean for climbers](#).

### **Stay Safe Out There!**

Assess and manage the risks of your adventure!

Thank you for subscribing! Follow us online:



[www.mountaineers.org](http://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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