



# LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



## Welcome,

We hope that you're able to enjoy this August edition of LeaderLines in between some time outdoors on one of our local trails, peaks, or waterways. Perhaps now more than ever, we're grateful to call the PNW home, with access to both [urban trails](#) and remote wilderness right out our backdoors.

As you plan your trips and classes for the fall, please note that we've revised our [COVID-19 guidance for Mountaineers programs](#). Thanks to the ongoing feedback of our leaders, we've streamlined our guidance to simplify some of the details and empower our volunteers to use their best judgement within a more general guiding framework. You can find a [summary of updates on our coronavirus blog](#). As always, please be in touch with questions and let us know how we can support you to get out there, whenever you feel ready.

In this edition, we also share a few important and exciting updates about our upcoming leadership development programming, introduce a new webinar series to help you embrace online and hybrid courses, and share a reminder to update your activity history and volunteer hours as we close out our fiscal year. This edition is jam packed with information, and you won't want to miss the details!

Happy Trails,

**Sara Ramsay & Nick Block**  
Education Department

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### **Leader Spotlight: Bruce Durham**

Leader Spotlight is a monthly blog to showcase our incredible volunteer leadership at The Mountaineers. Meet this month's featured leader: Bruce Durham. He is a self-proclaimed "paddling enthusiast" who continues to plan and schedule kayaking day trips that allow fellow Mountaineers to get out into the great outdoors during the pandemic.

[Read More](#)



### **2020 Leadership Conference Canceled and Expanded Online Programming**

After much consideration, The Mountaineers has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Leadership Conference, choosing instead to create more ongoing programming throughout the year. Read more about these decisions and some exciting [changes to our 2020-2021 leadership development programming](#).

- **Leadership Series:** In 2020-2021, we plan to expand our successful Leadership Development Series in a fully online format. Keep an eye out for sessions to be added to the [Virtual Events & Activities](#) calendar in the coming weeks!
- **Call for Presenters:** One benefit of online programming is that we're no longer limited by the geographic location of possible presenters. Know someone who you think would be a great fit for our series? Sessions will be offered in [several categories](#) and a modest stipend is available for speakers. Please contact [Sara Ramsay](#) for more information.
- **Resource Center:** Looking to do a little learning on your own time? A number of past Leadership Conference and Leadership Development Series sessions are recorded and available through our [Resource Center](#) library! [Running with Scissors](#) with Tom Unger and [Providing High Quality Feedback](#) with Deb Ajango are two of our favorites.



### **Lessons Learned: Redesigning Outdoor Education**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, The Mountaineers has seen a wave of creativity from our volunteers. We've also learned a lot along the way about what tools are available, what works best, and what we could be doing better. To support our volunteers with their future course planning, we're offering a [webinar series](#) on the how-to's of transitioning your outdoor course to a hybrid online model. Topics will include easy video editing, tips and tricks for administering small-group courses, and pricing during the pandemic.

### **Upcoming Sessions**

- September 14: [Pods, Cohorts, and Small Courses](#)
- September 21: [Easy Video Editing with Microsoft Video Editor](#)
- September 28: [Pricing in the Pandemic](#)
- October 5: [Easy Video Editing with the Kinemaster Phone App](#)
- October 12: [Managing Assignments in Google Classrooms](#)
- October 19: [Using Apps to Make Your Online Content More Engaging](#)
- October 26: [How To Make a Blended/Hybrid Course Successful](#)
- November 9: [Easy Video Editing with iMovie](#)
- November 16: [Using a Variety of Tools to Engage Online Learner](#)



### **Access & Permits: Index Town Walls**

The [Washington Climbers Coalition](#) manages [Index's Lower Town Wall and Inner Wall](#), popular destinations for many of our climbing programs. Group size is limited to 12 (currently 8 during Phase 2 operations), and all course-related trips must be under permit. Please reach out to [Sara Ramsay](#) at least 2-3 weeks ahead of your trip so that she can complete the required permit application and confirm your program date(s).

As we get back into the swing of trips, courses, and clinics, don't forget that many other popular destinations require permits too. Plan ahead, look for information about permitting on our [routes and places](#), and review our full guide to [facilitated access permits](#) for more information.



## Leader Logistics: Tying Up Loose Ends

With our fiscal year coming to a close on September 30, we need your help to ensure that our records accurately reflect the activities you've led and the hours you've spent volunteering!

- [Close any open activities](#) (or cancel activities that didn't happen) to ensure that participants in course- and stewardship-related activities have an accurate record of their participation and earn the appropriate badges.
- [Tracking your volunteer hours](#) helps us with volunteer recognition, matching donations, and more! Login to your My Volunteer Hours page to review hours recorded from your activities, events, meetings, and lodge stays; use the "Add Volunteer Hours" button to self-report hours that weren't captured.

As an extra incentive, note that we'll use activity information and volunteer hours to assign the [2020 Super Volunteer](#) and [2020 Key Leader](#) badges. We've updated the definitions for this year's awards to reflect our new hours tracking and to adjust for the pandemic. In future years, the Super Volunteer badge will be awarded on hours alone.

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## Quick Hits

- **Mountaineers making history.** Steve Swenson, Mountaineers Books author and a member of our Board of Directors, made the first ascent of Link Sar with climbing partners Graham Zimmerman, Chris Wright, and Mark Richey. For this pioneering ascent, Steve and his partners have been [awarded the prestigious Piolet d'Or](#). It's the second Piolet d'Or Steve has received.
- **Dirty?** [Learn how](#) to give that rope new life.
- **Disperse, we say!** Dispersed camping is a great way to get out, especially when camping areas are booked. [Learn everything you need to know](#) about dispersed camping.
- **Walking.** Who knew it was so complicated and yet had so darn [many benefits](#)?
- **So, you're gonna lose a toenail.** Congratulations! Your toenail turned all of the colors and is going to fall off. Don't despair. Follow [these tips](#) to embrace the 6-12 month regrowing process and welcome your new nail with grace and dignity.
- **Headed to Sahale?** Check out [this wonderful report](#) from a recent trip.
- **Conrad Anker and the Climate Crisis.** [Join us September 24](#) for a virtual presentation from one of the most accomplished mountaineers of our time.
- **More than adventure partners.** "Outdoor pursuits are reliant on ongoing, trusting relationships, which begets consistent and [true friendships](#)."
- **Don't call it a comeback.** Look at [these adorable little kits](#), aka baby wolverines, who have returned to Mount Rainier National Park after a 100-year absence. They brought their parents too.
- **[Nothing to see here.](#)** Just your standard 10,000 ft family outing...

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

Assess and manage the risks of your adventure!  
(And remember to wash those hands.)

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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