



## Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) Trip Policy – Information for Participants

AMC's goal is to be a community that is comfortable, inviting, and accessible for people of all dimensions of diversity. AMC membership is not a prerequisite for participating in any AMC program or for reserving space at any of AMC's huts, camps, lodges, or campsites. Our [Code of Conduct](#) applies across the AMC community including employees, volunteers, guests, and participants in our programs.

[COVID 19 policies](#) for participants and guests are available for review.

The activities offered by AMC involve varying degrees of risk. You should be both physically and mentally prepared and equipped with the appropriate gear. You should always be aware of the risks involved in outdoor activities and conduct yourself accordingly. In all activities, all participants share in the responsibility for their own safety and the safety of the group. Participants (and parents of minors) take responsibility for having appropriate skills, physical conditioning, equipment, and supplies for these activities.

AMC event organizers may be either volunteer Leaders or paid AMC Program Staff. Prior to registering for any activity, you are encouraged to discuss your capabilities with the trip Leader for volunteer led programs or the Program Manager for staff led activities. Contact information is provided in the event listing. Except for select staff led offerings such as Teen Wilderness Adventure, individuals under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult and obtain prior consent from the volunteer Leader. Those accompanying a minor are responsible for that minor's actions.

Although some AMC activities are designed to appeal to a specific audience, AMC activities are open to all who meet the minimum qualifications established by the organizer(s) and outlined in the [Essential Eligibility Criteria](#). While participant screening procedures vary among specific programs and audiences, Volunteer Leaders and/or Program Managers often conduct an initial conversation with potential participants to go over what to expect in terms of difficulty, any required gear, or logistics. This step helps ensure that participants sign up for activities that match their goals, comfort, and skill level. Participants are encouraged to reference AMC's [activity difficulty ratings information](#). Applicants may be excluded due to previously demonstrated personal incompatibility, unsafe actions, refusal to share community work, or inappropriate behavior that does not align with AMC's Code of Conduct.

Most participants will be required to sign an Acknowledgment of Risk and Liability Release. These are available for review under the heading 'Forms' on [AMC's Volunteer Resource Page](#). The appropriate volunteer Leader or Program Manager can provide info on what is required for specific activities or facilities. Minor participants, regardless of who they are accompanied by while

participating in AMC activities must have a parent or legal guardian sign AMC's Liability Release agreement prior to the activity.

Except for meeting place and time, an event organizer may change an activity as conditions warrant. Volunteer Leaders are not responsible for placing cars at an activity's end point unless it is so stated in the listing. Check current train/bus schedules where applicable. Pets are not permitted on staff led programs. Pets may only accompany owners on AMC activities with advance permission from the Leader.