



**APPALACHIAN  
MOUNTAIN CLUB**  
S I N C E 1 8 7 6

## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Hiking/Backpacking/Trekking (3 Season)

### LEADER IN TRAINING

Must be a current AMC member.

Is authorized to lead Activities with a mentor.

Must complete a Leadership Training program before proceeding to another level.

*Adventure Travel, Volunteer led Camps & Cabins, Outdoor Program Center Volunteers and Educators Outdoors have additional training and screening requirements that must be completed prior to the assignment of Leader in Training status.*

### LEVEL ONE

*Is authorized to lead accessible or relaxed Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
Demonstrates thoughtful consideration of the safety and well-being (both physical and emotional) of the participants to be more important than the goal or the completion of the Activity and is prepared to cancel the Activity, change plans, or turn back upon the recognition of unreasonable or unacceptable risks.				
Throughout the Activity, the individual must attempt to facilitate positive group interactions and to make sure that new people are introduced and welcomed into the group.				
Encourages respectful behavior by all persons participating in the Activity and is prepared to				



intervene if they observe or are told of any behavior inconsistent with AMC's Code of Conduct.				
Can read & navigate from a basic map (i.e.: state park map) or a smart phone app				
Can plan trip logistics, including routes & potential hazards. Can communicate these logistics and hazards with participants.				
Understands clothing & footwear appropriate for the season				
Encourages participant conduct consistent with Leave No Trace environmental and conservation principles and local regulations.				

## LEVEL TWO

*Is authorized to lead easy or moderate Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One Skills</b>				
Can read & understand a topographical map				
Understands gear essential to participate in the activity and can communicate this to participants (e.g.: headlamp).				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Hiking/Backpacking/Trekking (3 Season)

### LEVEL THREE

*Is authorized to lead vigorous or strenuous Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One &amp; Two Skills</b>				



## LEADER IN TRAINING

Must be a current AMC member.

Is authorized to lead Activities with a mentor.

Must complete a Leadership Training program before proceeding to another level.

*Adventure Travel, Volunteer led Camps & Cabins, Outdoor Program Center Volunteers and Educators Outdoors have additional training and screening requirements that must be completed prior to the assignment of Leader in Training status.*

## LEVEL ONE

*Is authorized to lead accessible or relaxed Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
Demonstrates thoughtful consideration of the safety and well-being (both physical and emotional) of the participants to be more important than the goal or the completion of the Activity and is prepared to cancel the Activity, change plans, or turn back upon the recognition of unreasonable or unacceptable risks.				
Throughout the Activity, the individual must attempt to facilitate positive group interactions and to make sure that new people are introduced and welcomed into the group.				
Encourages respectful behavior by all persons participating in the Activity and is prepared to intervene if they observe or are told of any behavior				



inconsistent with AMC's Code of Conduct.				
Can read & navigate from a basic map (i.e.: state park map) or a smart phone app				
Can plan trip logistics, including routes & potential hazards. Can communicate these logistics and hazards with participants.				
Understands clothing & footwear appropriate for the season				
Encourages participant conduct consistent with Leave No Trace environmental and conservation principles and local regulations.				

## LEVEL TWO

*Is authorized to lead easy or moderate Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One Skills</b>				
Can read & understand a topographical map				
Can orient and keep a group on trail when limited visibility conditions are present, or when trail, markers, or landmarks are obscured.				



Understand weather and implications; and be informed with current forecasts and conditions for region of activity.				
Understands gear essential to participate in the activity and can communicate this to participants (e.g.: headlamp).				
Understands how and when to use traction devices (e.g. micro spikes) on ice and snow and can communicate this to participants.				
Proactively observes and monitors participants for cold weather effects and/or injuries and acts appropriately.				

### LEVEL THREE

*Is authorized to lead vigorous or strenuous Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One &amp; Two Skills</b>				



## LEADER IN TRAINING

Must be a current AMC member.

Is authorized to lead Activities with a mentor.

Must complete a Leadership Training program before proceeding to another level.

*Adventure Travel, Volunteer led Camps & Cabins, Outdoor Program Center Volunteers and Educators Outdoors have additional training and screening requirements that must be completed prior to the assignment of Leader in Training status.*

## LEVEL ONE

*Is authorized to lead accessible or relaxed Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
Demonstrates thoughtful consideration of the safety and well-being (both physical and emotional) of the participants to be more important than the goal or the completion of the Activity and is prepared to cancel the Activity, change plans, or turn back upon the recognition of unreasonable or unacceptable risks.				
Throughout the Activity, the individual must attempt to facilitate positive group interactions and to make sure that new people are introduced and welcomed into the group.				
Encourages respectful behavior by all persons participating in the Activity and is prepared to intervene if they observe or				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Biking

are told of any behavior inconsistent with AMC's Code of Conduct.				
Models use of clothing & footwear (layering system) appropriate for the season.				
Can plan trip logistics, including routes & potential hazards. Can communicate these logistics and hazards with participants.				
Models and sets expectations for the minimum personal protective requirements (PPE) for the Activity.				
Employs effective strategies to actively manage the group including systems or procedures to ensure participants do not get lost, verbal commands & hand signals, proper group etiquette for the environment the Activity will be travelling through.				
Effectively reads and navigates from a basic map or digital device.				
Can repair a flat tire in the field and make/recommend basic seat or frame adjustments for participants OR recommend a resource (bike mechanic, bike shop, resource center) to have the tire repaired and basic frame adjustments made to support overall fit.				
Encourages participant conduct consistent with Leave No Trace environmental and conservation principles and local regulations.				



**LEVEL TWO**

*Is authorized to lead easy or moderate Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One Skills</b>				
Can demonstrate or access most types of field repairs (changing flat tires; brake adjustments; tighten and/or adjust various bicycle components (seat post, handlebars, stem, front, and rear derailleurs; other, as needed).				

**LEVEL THREE**

*Is authorized to lead vigorous or strenuous Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Biking

<b>Level One and Two Skills</b>				
Can teach others most types of basic field repairs				



## LEADER IN TRAINING

Must be a current AMC member.

Is authorized to lead Activities with a mentor.

Must complete a Leadership Training program before proceeding to another level.

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## LEVEL ONE

*Can lead accessible or relaxed Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
Demonstrates thoughtful consideration of the safety and well-being (both physical and emotional) of the participants to be more important than the goal or the completion of the Activity and is prepared to cancel the Activity, change plans, or turn back upon the recognition of unreasonable or unacceptable risks.				
Throughout the Activity, the individual must attempt to facilitate positive group interactions and to make sure that new people are introduced and welcomed into the group.				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Paddling

Encourages respectful behavior by all persons participating in the Activity and is prepared to intervene if they observe or are told of any behavior inconsistent with AMC's Code of Conduct.				
Basic understanding of boat types and required gear				
Ability to coordinate appropriate shuttling of vehicles				
Ability to read and navigate from a map or smartphone app/GPS unit				
Self-rescue and appropriate skills to assist participants				
Can demo and help participants with basic paddling strokes and skills				
Assess difficulty of paddling activity as it is affected by such factors as water level, temperature, weather, available daylight hours, and possible place to exit the river if an emergency occurs.				
Encourages participant conduct consistent with Leave No Trace environmental and conservation principles and local regulations.				



## LEVEL TWO

*Can lead easy or moderate Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One Skills</b>				
Has skills and equipment to perform appropriate safety and rescue				
Able to demo intermediate paddling skills and understanding of water characteristics.				
Able to help participants learn about equipment needed (boat type, outfitting, rescue equipment, etc.)				

## LEVEL THREE

*Can lead vigorous or strenuous Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One &amp; Two Skills</b>				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Paddling

Appropriate navigational skills using web/GPS based navigation systems and/or able to navigate from map and compass. Understands how to identify location as might be needed for search and rescue such as latitude/longitude data or using an emergency beacon.				
Understand use of appropriate electronic safety aids (VHF radio, cell/satellite phone)				
Advanced understanding of boat types and required gear, including boat repair, features, and make correct decisions on what boats are appropriate for the trip.				
Understands how to address land and water accidents specific to paddling activities such as shoulder injuries, slip and fall accidents, etc. and understands how such an injury would impact continued activity participation.				



The following climbing Activity Leader Levels represent the basic technical understandings and proficiencies associated with increasingly complex climbing environments. Leaders at each level will be able to perform the listed skill or possess sufficient understanding of the skill to ensure the skill or knowledge is accounted for within the Activity group or through planning of the Activity.

Assessing applicable skill sets for new Leaders will continue to be the responsibility of Chapter Committees.

*Notes:*

- *Not every skill will be applicable for each Level. For example, the Leader of a climbing gym activity will not need to know how to set up a top rope climb. In these instances, please write N/A.*
- *The 'Can Teach Others' column may not be applicable if the Leader is not an instructor.*
- *This list is for both rock and ice. "Ice" or "Rock" may be written in the "Notes" column.*
- *Skills with an asterisk (\*) are key requirements for all Leaders outlined in the Leadership Requirements and Guidelines and restated here for emphasis.*

**LEADER IN TRAINING**

*Is authorized to lead Activities with a mentor*

Item	Confirmed	Notes
Be a current AMC member		
Completed Leadership Training		Must be done before moving up to a Leader Level.

*Adventure Travel, Volunteer led Camps & Cabins, Outdoor Program Center Volunteers and Educators Outdoors have additional training and screening requirements that must be completed prior to the assignment of Leader in Training status.*

**LEVEL ONE**

*Is authorized to lead accessible or relaxed Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				



*Demonstrates thoughtful consideration of the safety and well-being (both physical and emotional) of the participants to be more important than the goal or the completion of the Activity and is prepared to cancel the Activity, change plans, or turn back upon the recognition of unreasonable or unacceptable risks.				
*Throughout the Activity, the individual must attempt to facilitate positive group interactions and to make sure that new people are introduced and welcomed into the group.				
*Encourages respectful behavior by all persons participating in the Activity and is prepared to intervene if they observe or are told of any behavior inconsistent with AMC's Code of Conduct.				
*Encourages participant conduct consistent with Leave No Trace environmental and conservation principles and local regulations.				
Understand the mechanics of how to Top-Rope climb.				
Understands how to, and ensures, tope rope sites are managed safely.				
Understands how to tie-in to a harness safely.				
Understands how to top-rope belay safely.				
Understands how to, and ensures, top rope anchors are set up properly.				



Understanding of appropriate clothing/layers for conditions and activity.				
Ability to use PPE (helmet)				
Understands how to, and ensures, objective environmental hazards are identified and managed.				

## LEVEL TWO

*Is authorized to lead easy or moderate Activities. Level one skills, plus:*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
Understands the mechanics of how to lead climb single-pitch climbing routes.				
Ability to safely manage base area of lead climbing site.				
Understands how to place climbing protection on-lead.				
Understands how to lead belay safely.				
Understands the process of how to assist or rescue a participant who cannot ascend or descend from a climb.				
Understands how to rappel safely from the top of a single-pitch climb.				
Understanding of ropes, knots, and hitches used in a				



single-pitch lead-climbing environment.				
Understands how to assess difficulty of climbs and their appropriateness for the skill level and expectations of the participants.				
Understands how to protect a following climber (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) and belayer in a lead-climbing environment.				
Appropriate navigational skills using web/GPS based navigation systems and/or able to navigate from map and compass to locate climbing locations. Understands how to identify location as might be needed for search and rescue such as latitude/longitude data or using an emergency beacon.				

### LEVEL THREE

*Can lead vigorous or strenuous Activities. Level one and two skills, plus:*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
Understands how to lead climb multi-pitch climbing routes.				
Understands how to safely manage intermediate belays on multi-pitch climbs.				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Climbing

Understands how to lead belay safely from an intermediate belay.				
Advanced ability to assist or rescue a participant who cannot ascend or descend from the climb.				
Understands how to employ multiple rappels to descend safely from a multi-pitch climb.				
Understanding of ropes, knots, and hitches used in a multi-pitch lead-climbing environment.				
Advanced navigational skills needed to safely navigate from the top of a multi-pitch climb to the roadside by non-technical climbing methods (hiking, off trail travel, etc.).				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Backcountry Skiing

For the purposes of this document backcountry is defined as any Activity that takes place (partially or in its entirety) over an hour from definitive medical care. Assessing whether an Activity falls into this category is owned by the Leader in partnership with the Activity Approver.

This category is inclusive of all different types of skis that can be used to travel in backcountry terrain and includes splitboards.

### LEADER IN TRAINING

Must be a current AMC member.

Is authorized to lead Activities with a mentor.

Must complete a Leadership Training program before proceeding to another level.

*Adventure Travel, Volunteer led Camps & Cabins, Outdoor Program Center Volunteers and Educators Outdoors have additional training and screening requirements that must be completed prior to the assignment of Leader in Training status.*

### LEVEL ONE

*Is authorized to lead accessible or relaxed Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
Demonstrates thoughtful consideration of the safety and well-being (both physical and emotional) of the participants to be more important than the goal or the completion of the Activity and is prepared to cancel the Activity, change plans, or turn back upon the recognition of unreasonable or unacceptable risks.				
Throughout the Activity, the individual must attempt to				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Backcountry Skiing

facilitate positive group interactions and to make sure that new people are introduced and welcomed into the group.				
Encourages respectful behavior by all persons participating in the Activity and is prepared to intervene if they observe or are told of any behavior inconsistent with AMC's Code of Conduct.				
Ability to navigate with map and compass, trail finding, terrain navigation, and GPS unit/smartphone apps.				
Can plan trip logistics, including routes, bailouts, potential hazards. Can communicate these logistics and hazards with participants.				
Has access to the equipment and experience to assist participants experiencing minor equipment issues/failures.				
General understanding of how skis work, different equipment types and performance characteristics and can communicate this to participants.				
Understand weather and implications; and be informed with current forecasts and conditions for region of activity.				
Understands layering systems appropriate for the season.				
For multi-day trips, has been mentored in such trips with "front-country" lodging.				
Encourages participant conduct consistent with Leave No Trace environmental and				



conservation principles and local regulations.				
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## LEVEL TWO

*Is authorized to lead easy or moderate Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One Skills</b>				
Can use a variety of GPS programs and/or map & compass.				

## LEVEL THREE

*Is authorized to lead vigorous or strenuous Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level 1 &amp; 2 Skills</b>				
Can orient and keep a group on trail when limited visibility conditions are present, or when trail, markers, or landmarks are obscured.				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Backcountry Skiing

Utilizes effective strategies to instruct participants in all respects of technique and equipment.				
For multi-day trips, has been mentored in such trips with overnights, including “rustic accommodations” such as unheated tents, shelters, etc.				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Front Country Skiing

For the purposes of this document front country is defined as any Activity that remains within an hour of definitive medical care. Assessing whether an Activity falls into this category is owned by the Leader in partnership with the Activity Approver.

This category is inclusive of all different types of skis that can be used to travel in front country terrain and includes snowboards.

### LEADER IN TRAINING

Must be a current AMC member.

Is authorized to lead Activities with a mentor.

Must complete a Leadership Training program before proceeding to another level.

*Adventure Travel, Volunteer led Camps & Cabins, Outdoor Program Center Volunteers and Educators Outdoors have additional training and screening requirements that must be completed prior to the assignment of Leader in Training status.*

### LEVEL ONE

*Is authorized to lead accessible or relaxed Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
Demonstrates thoughtful consideration of the safety and well-being (both physical and emotional) of the participants to be more important than the goal or the completion of the Activity and is prepared to cancel the Activity, change plans, or turn back upon the recognition of unreasonable or unacceptable risks.				
Throughout the Activity, the individual must attempt to				



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## LEADER LEVELS

Activity: Front Country Skiing

facilitate positive group interactions and to make sure that new people are introduced and welcomed into the group.				
Encourages respectful behavior by all persons participating in the Activity and is prepared to intervene if they observe or are told of any behavior inconsistent with AMC's Code of Conduct.				
Ability to read and navigate from a basic map or smartphone app.				
Can plan trip logistics, including routes, bailouts, potential hazards. Can communicate these logistics and hazards with participants.				
Has access to the equipment and experience to assist participants experiencing minor equipment issues/failures.				
General understanding of how skis work, different equipment types and performance characteristics and can communicate this to participants.				
Understand weather and implications; and be informed with current forecasts and conditions for region of activity.				
Understands layering systems appropriate for the season.				
For multi-day trips, has been mentored in such trips with "front-country" lodging.				
Encourages participant conduct consistent with Leave No Trace environmental and				



conservation principles and local regulations.				
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## LEVEL TWO

*Is authorized to lead easy or moderate Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One Skills</b>				
Can use a variety of GPS programs and/or map & compass.				

## LEVEL THREE

*Is authorized to lead vigorous or strenuous Activities*

Skill	Needs Development	Proficient	Can Teach Others	Notes
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level 1 &amp; 2 Skills</b>				
Can orient and keep a group on trail when limited visibility conditions are present, or when trail, markers, or landmarks are obscured.				



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## **LEADER LEVELS**

Activity: Trail Work

### **LEADER IN TRAINING**

Must be a current AMC member.

Is authorized to lead Activities with a mentor.

Must complete a Leadership Training program before proceeding to another level.

Trail Adopter training is recommended.

**Sawyers and Swampers using chainsaws under the AMC umbrella have specific requirements and certifications. A Leader does not need certification to lead the project, but only qualified Sawyers may use chainsaws.**

**Leaders may engage subject matter experts or other qualified individuals to provide advanced skills that may be needed for specialized work projects.**

*Adventure Travel, Volunteer led Camps & Cabins, Outdoor Program Center Volunteers and Educators Outdoors have additional training and screening requirements that must be completed prior to the assignment of Leader in Training status.*

### **LEVEL ONE (Basic)**

*Is authorized to lead basic trail work Activities*

<b>Skill</b>	<b>Needs Development</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Can Teach Others</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
Hold current certification in basic first aid or higher (WFA, WFR, Red Cross, etc.).				
Carry a first aid kit or kits appropriate for the size of the group, the Leaders first aid training level, and the work being done.				
Able to train the participants in safe and proper tool use (loppers, saw, shovel, hand tools).				



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**LEADER LEVELS**  
Activity: Trail Work

Can plan trail logistics, including PPE, potential hazards; and communicate with participants				
Understands and communicates PPE, clothing & footwear appropriate for the season and the work to be performed.				
Can complete basic and physically capable maintaining work with hand tools: clipping, blazing, raking, widening, weeding, clearing water bars, removing trash, small, downed limbs, or trees, etc.				
Relocate Trails on simple terrain (flat to rolling terrain) for short distances, less than ¼ miles (approx.).				
Understand and conform to additional requirements Land Managers (State, Federal or private) may have for training, land use, equipment, and hazard communication.				
Many land managers have Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) documents that describe hazards specifically associated with many different aspects of trail work. If JHA's exist within the land-manager's organization, these should be used as part of this pre-work communication.				
Demonstrates thoughtful consideration of the safety and well-being (both physical and emotional) of the participants to be more important than the goal or the completion of the Activity and is prepared to cancel the Activity, change plans, or turn back upon the				



recognition of unreasonable or unacceptable risks.				
Throughout the Activity, the individual must attempt to facilitate positive group interactions and to make sure that new people are introduced and welcomed into the group.				
Encourages respectful behavior by all persons participating in the Activity and is prepared to intervene if they observe or are told of any behavior inconsistent with AMC's Code of Conduct.				
Encourages participant conduct consistent with Leave No Trace environmental and conservation principles and local regulations.				

**LEVEL TWO (Intermediate)**

*Is authorized to lead intermediate trail work Activities*

*May serve as an Instructor for Level One Leaders*

*Please note: this level does not include work that requires grip hoist or other overhead rigging.*

<b>Skill</b>	<b>Needs Development</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Can Teach Others</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				



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**LEADER LEVELS**  
Activity: Trail Work

<b>Level One Skills</b>				
Able to train the participants in safe and proper tool use (loppers, saw, shovel, hand tools and other tools for water bars, step stones, bog bridges, and treadway re-grading). Please note: this level does not include work that requires grip hoist or other overhead rigging.				

**LEVEL THREE (Advanced)**

*Is authorized to lead advanced trail work Activities*

*May serve as an Instructor for Level One or Two Leaders*

<b>Skill</b>	<b>Needs Development</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Can Teach Others</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Technical proficiency: Leaders must have a technical skill level that comfortably exceeds that required for the difficulty of the Activity that they are leading.				
<b>Level One &amp; Two Skills</b>				
Able to train the participants in safe and proper tool use (loppers, saw, shovel, hand tools and other tools for water bars, step stones, bog bridges, and treadway re-grading).				



## **AMC Volunteer Trail Work/Trail Project Leader Requirements and Guidelines January 2020 Adopted May 2020**

In addition to the Appalachian Mountain Club Leadership Requirements and Guidelines (LRG), a committee of staff and club volunteers has developed this template of additional leadership requirements and guidelines specific to Trail Crew/Work Party projects led by AMC Volunteers. This template is designed to help Club Units establish their own Trail Work activity-specific requirements and guidelines to qualify trail work party Leaders. AMC Trail Committee Club Units are encouraged to incorporate these best practices, requirements and guidelines across all AMC Chapters.

**Trail Work/Trail Project Trip Leader(s):** This refers to a person/people who intend to lead an AMC Chapter-sponsored volunteer group trail work activity

**Trail Work Trip Leaders will:**

- Have appropriate leadership training as noted in the LRG
- Demonstrate ability to perform trail work, or work on trail-related structures, that meets the recommendations outlined for a particular Skill Level, below.
- Co-instruct on at least one work trip of a particular Skill Level before serving as a primary Leader for that Skill Level.

**LRG Safety Requirements for Trail Work Trip Leaders:**

*Trail work requires safety precautions beyond that of a recreational hike and use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The Leader and Assistant Leader (if present) are required to determine the PPE or other equipment necessary for each project, and that it is used consistently and correctly by participants.*

- *Note: Participants who ignore PPE requirements should be dismissed from the project, or assigned work that does not require the PPE.*

**Guidelines for Trail Work Trip Leaders:**

In addition to any training required by sponsoring Club Units, Leaders should:

- Hold current certification in some type of basic first aid or better (WFA, WFR, Red Cross, etc).
- Should carry a first aid kit or kits appropriate for the size of the group and work being done.
- Demonstrate the necessary technical skill that is appropriate for the level of activity that is being conducted. Specific skills will be determined by the appropriate Club Unit.
- If appropriate, Leaders may engage subject matter experts or other qualified individuals to provide advanced skills that may be needed for specialized work projects.
- Responsible to ensure that the tools and PPE for the project are in working condition and appropriate for the type of work. These may be provided by the chapter or participants will supply their own, provided they meet any required standards (typically ANSI or OSHA).
- Communicate the project's activity plan to all participants--who should be pre-screened for the level of difficulty the activity requires. A "tailgate session" before departure for the work site will include tool use and operation, emergency