

Here at the CMC, we love seeing our members get out and get after it. Whether you are climbing, fishing, hiking, or biking, going for a walk in your city park, road tripping Colorado, or traveling internationally, it is a joy to see your pictures and hear your stories of adventure.



But, there are responsible and not so responsible ways to show off where we go on those adventures, both as a Club and as individual outdoorists. Recently, while out adventuring, one of our staff members came across a Colorado Trail sign that was down and had a CMC sticker on it.

As an organization, we do not condone defacing public lands. So, to both remind ourselves and our members what it means to be responsible outdoor recreationists, we want to take this opportunity to revisit the [Leave No Trace Principles](#).

What is [Leave No Trace](#)? For those of you that don't know, Leave No Trace, "provide(s) guidance to enjoy our natural world in a sustainable way that avoids human-created impacts" (Int.org). There are seven principles, which are:

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

We highly encourage you to visit the Leave No Trace website to learn about each principle in more detail. The principles that are violated when putting CMC stickers up in the wilderness are 3) Dispose of Waste Properly and 7) Be Considerate of Other Visitors.

In terms of disposing of waste properly, we must follow the rules to pack out what we pack in. Putting a sticker on a sign is effectively littering and introduces man-made materials where they shouldn't be. Whatever goes into the wild with us needs to come back out, and that includes stickers.

We also need to be considerate of all visitors to public lands. We should respect that people will visit the area after us and would like the same unadulterated views that we had. Putting a sticker on a sign inserts the man-made world into the natural world that we intentionally sought out for some peace and quiet. Let's keep nature natural so we, and future generations, can enjoy it for years to come.

In addition to it being the right thing to do and in line with Leave No Trace, putting stickers on public lands is illegal. US Forests and public lands are protected, and defacing or destroying property, i.e.

putting up stickers or graffiti, can lead to a lifetime ban from National Parks, up to a \$500 fine, jail time, or all of the above. In other words, it is not worth it.

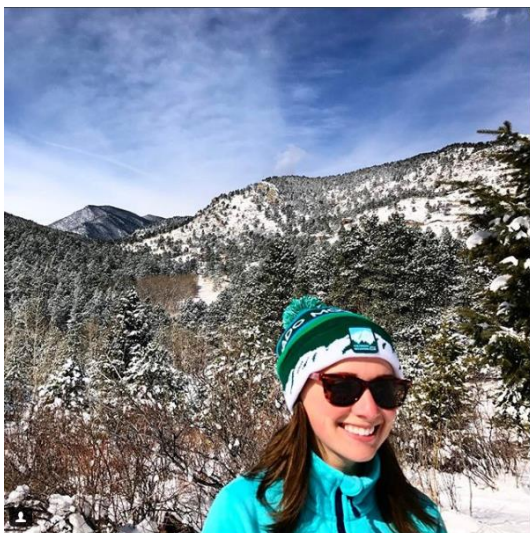
Now, we are not saying that you can't show off your CMC pride with stickers and gear while out adventuring. But you can do so in a way that follows national laws and Leave No Trace. Here are examples of what to do when you want to showcase your CMC adventures in a responsible way.



Here our High Altitude Mountaineering School put up a banner at Muir Camp and Mt. Rainier. Both badass and responsible as the banner comes back down with them.



Summit a 14er in one of the amazing and cozy Adidas TERREX rain jackets? Sweet!



Show us all the places you wear your CMC hat. Rain, shine, or snow, we want to know where you go!



We all need water on hikes, and our water bottles visit as many cool places as we do. Where in the world has your CMC water bottle been?

Get out there and show off your epic adventures, be it a walk through the city park, your first camping trip, or summiting your 50th 14er. We want to see you CMC'ers out and about, just doing so in a way that preserves those places for the generations to come.

Where to stick your



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STICKER



