



BACKPACKING SCHOOL (BKPS)

Welcome Letter

Welcome to Backpacking School (BKPS)!

This packet contains information to help you prepare for BKPS. Please read this letter in its entirety as it will explain everything you need to know! Please let me know if there are any questions. We look forward to having you in BKPS!

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BKPS Director
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Packet Contents

1. Welcome Letter - this document
2. BKPS Mission Statement
3. BKPS Curriculum - contains details for each day, including learning objectives and course contents.
4. The Backpacker's Field Manual - book used for reading assignments
5. Navigation Refresher Exercise - students are expected to know map and compass skills (learned in WTS). This exercise is a refresher as we know these skills get rusty if not used!

BKPS Overview

BKPS has over twenty (20) volunteer instructors who share their knowledge and experiences on how to backpack safely in the Colorado mountains in non-winter conditions. We are all committed to help you gain the skills you desire, whether you're just starting out, rusty with your skills and need a refresher, or want to learn the latest in backpacking!

While we have around fifty (50) students who sign up for the course each year, we assign students to Small Groups. Each Small Group is lead by a Group Leader, with one (1) to two (2) additional BKPS instructors, and eight (8) students.

BKPS Curriculum

The BKPS curriculum is offered in a hybrid format:

- Student-Led Learning - Students complete general preparation, on-line learning modules, and reading on their own schedule but prior to the instructor-led training (ILT) date!
- Instructor-Led Training - "In person" [AMC, Virtual, and Field] interaction with BKPS instructors.

The table below identifies the dates, times, and locations for each Instructor-Led Training (ILT). Refer to the BKPS Curriculum (attached) for details on each day.

Class/Field Day	ILT Date	ILT Time	ILT Location	Who
Welcome	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Class #1: Gear Considerations	June 7	6:30 - 8:30 pm	AMC	All Groups
Class #2: Pre-Trip Activities	June 14	7:00 - 8:30 pm*	Virtual/In Person	Small Group
Field #1: Gear Shakedown	June 18	7:00 am - 1:00 pm	AMC	All Groups
Class #3: On The Trail & Post-Trip Activities	June 21	7:00 - 8:30 pm*	Virtual/In Person	Small Group
Field #2: Basic	June 25 - 26	TBD*	Field*	Small Group
Field #3: Advanced	July 9 - 10	TBD*	Field*	Small Group



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Class/Field Day	ILT Date	ILT Time	ILT Location	Who
Field #4: Graduation	TBD*	TBD*	Field*	Small Group
* Times and locations are determined by each Small Group				

BKPS Resources

BKPS utilizes a variety of resources throughout the course. The table below provides more information.

Course Component	Location
On-line Learning Modules	cmc-schools.org ¹
Reading Assignments - Backpacker's Field Manual	Book [provided in Welcome Packet]
Reading Assignments - BKPS Website	cmcdenver.org/schools-2/bkps ²
Instructor-Led Training (ILT) - AMC	710 10th St, Golden
Instructor-Led Training (ILT) - Virtual	Group Leader will provide details
Instructor-Led Training (ILT) - Field	Group Leader will identify location

¹ An email with account and password information will be sent approximately two (2) weeks prior to Class #1 date.
² Click on the "Student Materials" link; the password is: BKPS-Student

CMC Cancellation Policy for Schools

Please review the CMC policy for more information: www.cmc.org/About/GoverningDocuments/CancellationPolicy.aspx

Want to Volunteer?

Students are encouraged to volunteer! Volunteering provides an opportunity for you to continue building your knowledge and skills, give back by teaching others what you've learned, and build your CMC community! Please contact the BKPS Director if you're interested.