



Mile High Mountaineer

January 2025



Photo © Keith Stinebaugh



Toasting a succesful grad hike!

Photo courtesy of WTS

Wilderness Trekking School for 2025

WTS information for 2025 has been released, please click [here](#) to see details. This is an excellent learning opportunity for both new and experienced hikers and is a prerequisite for many other courses.

In State Outing (ISO) 2025

Registration for the annual In State Outing is now open, The event will be held at Snow Mountain Ranch 1-5 Sep 2025. Click [here](#) for more information and registration details.

ATTENTION: ALL Denver Group Trip Leaders, Senior School Instructors & School Directors -

Denver Group Leadership Scholarship 2025 CHANGES

The Denver Group Leadership Scholarship is a program established in appreciation of our leadership volunteers who share their time, expertise, and passion with our members. The program provides financial benefit to support qualifying leader's efforts in furthering their education and skill development.

This program's initial year (2024) was very successful and has put us in the position to make improvements that expand this benefit and make it available to even more of our active leaders.

A few of the changes include:

- 1) The Maximum Scholarship amount has been increased from one hundred dollars (\$100) to two hundred dollars (\$200). Therefore, each approved Scholarship amount will be equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the Applicant's requested Denver Group School's tuition cost, but no greater than two hundred dollars (\$200) per course [i.e. The lesser of 100% of the tuition amount or \$200]; and
- 2) The minimum number of required trips needed to qualify for a scholarship has been reduced from six (6) trips to three (3) trips led in the prior twelve (12) month period. To qualify the applicant must have been the "primary" trip leader of the trip.

We hope you will take advantage of this scholarship benefit and register for some of our great **courses taught by the Denver Group.**

For full information and the on-line application, go to Denver Group Leadership Scholarship page on CMC.org by clicking this [link](#).

Please remember that Wilderness First Aid, AIARE, and ATA are CMC State run schools and are NOT funded under the Denver Group Leadership Scholarship program.

ATTENTION: Winter Trip Leaders

The Avalanche Terrain Avoidance (ATA) course is a basic seminar and 1/2 field-day to help you recognize when and where avalanche danger may exist and how to avoid it. Sources of information and methods for planning avalanche-safe routes will be presented. Find out more [HERE](#).

ATA is recommended for all CMC trip leaders (regardless of sport or season) and **required** for leaders who travel in snow-covered areas but do not travel in avalanche-prone terrain. AIARE Level 1 (or equivalent) is required for trip leaders who travel in avalanche prone terrain.

2025 Telemark Ski School

The Telemark Ski School - Denver Group has over 40 years of providing quality instruction to hundreds of students from all over Colorado and beyond! We help beginner, intermediate, and advanced-level telemark skiers learn and/or improve their telemark skiing skills.

The 2025 Telemark Ski School (TSS) offers **3 individual Sunday sessions: January 26, February 9, and February 23**; all sessions take place at Loveland Ski Area. For each session, you'll be grouped with others of like ability and assigned your instructor for the day. The second and third TSS sessions in February may find you in a higher-level class, dependent on your practice and improvement from previous session(s).

The best way to use the School is to take at least two of the sessions and practice in-between. But taking all three is even better! This is YOUR year for telemark skiing--come join the fun!

Registration is now open. For more information or questions answered, contact Marilyn Choske, Co-Director, at 303-905-8510 before 9pm or mjchoske@gmail.com.

2025 Beginner Snowshoe School

Learn about snowshoe selection and fit, appropriate dress, and keeping warm, prepping for a trip, trail techniques, breaking trail, and fall recovery. You'll be able to select a snowshoe trip off the CMC calendar with confidence. Location and carpool details TBD the week before class day depending on where the snow is. **Registration is now open.** For more information go [here](#).

A Report from the New Denver Orbital Trail

Robbie Monsma submitted some information about the new Denver Orbital Trail (click [here](#) for details on the trail). She said that two groups from the Rocky Mountain Over the Hill Gang welcomed the New Year by starting at opposite ends of Segment 8 on Jan 1st and meeting in the middle. She added that "it is almost completely in the country, undeveloped prairie in all its lumpy glory with great mountain views." This would make a great winter dayhike and it is already in the [R&P](#).



Some photos from the Jan 1st outing
courtesy of Ron Hileman.



Congratulations to the Denver Group's newest CMC Trip Leaders!

Jeff Adamson and Sarah Menassian were approved in December 2024.

The Denver Group Council is looking for a few good members!

Give back to the club and volunteer to help manage and influence policies, events/activities, and new directions for our group. If interested, email the Co-chairs at cmcdgcc@gmail.com.



Image courtesy of cmc.org

Upcoming Trips, Courses, and Events

Check out the [CMC Calendar](#) to find your next outdoor fun!

[Schools and Course offerings](#)

[New & Prospective Member Hike](#)

[Become a Trip Leader!](#)

Stay active, explore more places, and make new friends.

PSAR Corner

The Backcountry Incident Management School sponsored an evening with the Alpine Rescue Team/JeffComm911 on 19 Dec 2024 at the Alpiine Rescue Teams's facility in Evergreen, CO. The purpose of the session was to hear what the people on the "other end" of a 911 call or an inReach message need from us, and what we can do to prevent having to call for search and rescue in the first place. Information from this session will be published in the next three newsletters. The first part, about calling 911, may be accessed [here](#).

Some of the highlights from the Part 1 include:

In the event of an emergency/incident, **CALL 911**. Do not attempt to call the county sheriff or the local Search and Rescue team directly. The 911 dispatchers will make all of the subsequent calls needed.

The most important thing 911 needs is your **LOCATION**. This should be passed in the form of degrees/decimal degrees if possible. It is imperative that trip leaders know how to obtain their coordinates using smartphone apps before calling 911. (Note - there will be more on this topic in a future PSAR Corner article.)

Once you have called 911, **DO NOT TIE UP YOUR CELLPHONE** with calls to family/friends. Keep your phone free to receive calls back from search and rescue elements and save your battery.

There may be long sections of silence during a 911 call because the operator is busy entering information or talking with another organization. **DO NOT HANG UP** during these silences, stay on the line until the operator tells you to hang up.

Denver Group Contacts

COUNCIL

[Denver Group Council](#)

Meets Monthly, 2nd Tuesday (usually)

COMMITTEES

[Leadership Committee](#)

[Schools Committee](#)

[Conservation & Trails Committee](#)

[Member Initiatives Committee](#)

SECTIONS

[Ascending Hikes](#)

[Backpacking](#)

[Bobcats](#)

[Fly Fishing](#)

[Over the Hill Gang \(RMOTHG\)](#)

[Photography](#)

Call for Submissions

Have an item you'd like included in a future Mile High Mountaineer newsletter?

The next deadline is the first Sunday of the month. Guidelines:

- Articles should be 200 words or less, **OR** submitted as a PDF
- MHM editor reserves the right to determine what's included in the newsletter and edit submissions for clarity and length
- Photo submissions are welcome, but please include a photo credit and caption
- Submissions must be relevant to the Denver Group of the CMC and/or its members; paid advertisements are not accepted.

Please send submissions to: cmcdgnewsletter@gmail.com.

Questions, comments, or submissions? E-mail cmcdgnewsletter@gmail.com.

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