

IMPORTANT: Join the Wait List when the roster is “full”

Many hikes on the calendar fill quickly, but some members inevitably cancel as trip time approaches, so **sign up anyway** because wait lists *almost* always clear.

Get Notice When a Trip is Posted

Sign up for Trip and Activities **Alerts & Notifications** in the **My Preferences** section of your online CMC Profile. Learn by reading trip details – pace, distance, gain. Find trip leaders who suit your hiking style.

Worried about not knowing how trips work? Which trips to sign up for? About being too slow or fast?

Review “[Trip and Trail Etiquette and Related Suggestions.](#)”



Sign up for a [New & Prospective Member Hike](#).

They are offered bi-monthly and answer questions about trips, schools, gear, hiking speed/pace, carpooling, and CMC member resources.



Read the [Ascending Hikes Section Member Guide](#), a basic guide to hiking fitness, understanding speed/pace, elevation gain, mileage and high point elevation. The Ascending Hikes Section is free and open to all members.

JOIN SPECIAL INTEREST SECTIONS

Do you have a special interest you would like to pursue with the CMC? Explore more by joining a special interest section such as Backpacking (BPX), Mountain Biking, Colorado High Peaks, Fly Fishing, Photography, Trail Running or Technical Climbing. Find more information on the [Special Interest Sections](#) page.

CONSERVATION & ADVOCACY

The CMC works with agencies and organizations on several conservation projects. To learn more, see the [Conservation and Advocacy](#) page.

BECOME A TRIP LEADER OR SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR



Note that many CMC classes are free or heavily discounted for trip leaders, so decide if that interests you. If it does, sign up for the [Trip Leader School](#). Usually, people who attend a class are invited to apply as an assistant instructor in future class sessions.

VOLUNTEER WITH YOUTH

CMC serves thousands of children annually with activity camps, after-school programs, and classroom visits. We welcome qualified adult volunteers.



FIND YOUR ADVENTURE! NOCO GROUP

Find your place in the outdoors with Colorado's premier backcountry and mountain community. Your membership unlocks access to outdoor trips, courses, guidebook discounts, gear discounts and more.

- Recreation
- Education
- Conservation

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CMC Schools

You can “just hike” with the CMC and enjoy our beautiful outdoors without taking any classes, but as you hike with others, you may be interested in learning more and developing your backcountry skills.

THE FOUNDATION CLASS



Required to move on to many other CMC classes is **Either** [Mountain Hiking Course \(MHC\)](#), in-person classes and field days), offered Spring, **or** [Day Hiker School \(DHS\)](#), Hybrid - online classwork and in-person field days), which is open for registration all year on a rolling basis. Have a lot of experience already? You may be able to waive all or part of the class requirements.

NEXT LEVEL CLASSES



[Alpine Scrambling Class](#). This class teaches non-roped bouldering, a skill that’s required on most peaks, even low ones, and on many trails. You will be amazed at how much confidence you build and how many places you can go!



[Backpacking School](#). Backpacking is the best way to experience the Colorado backcountry. Even if you are not sure about your interest, this class will build your confidence and let you see new places with CMC veterans.



[Climbing and Mountaineering](#). Classes and trips are designed to teach the technical elements of

rock, snow, and ice climbing and specialized skills to safely negotiate challenging terrain.

No prerequisites for Introduction or Basic Level classes and a waiver process permitting a climber to jump into the Intermediate or Advanced classes.

“NO-PREREQUISITE” CLASSES OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS

Up your game quickly -- Check them out at the CMC [Schools and Classes](#) page.



[Intro to Hiking Safety](#). A 3-hour introductory seminar about how to stay safe in Colorado’s backcountry.



[Wilderness First Aid](#). This two-day class usually is offered once a month. Preparation, pre-reading, instruction, and role-play. Prerequisite to becoming a trip leader or instructor.



[Wilderness Survival School](#). No eating bugs, roots, or tree bark! Prepare for unforeseen emergency sheltering, signaling for help, plus staying safe and warm, because help may not come until the next day. Increase your odds of survival.



[Winter Camping School](#). Learn to enjoy the winter, snow and moonlight in comfort.



[Avalanche Terrain Avoidance](#). Learn about Colorado’s unique snow challenges in this one-day class. Prerequisite to becoming a winter trip leader or instructor.



[Beginner Snowshoe School](#). Learn about snowshoe selection and fit, clothing, staying warm, breaking trail, snow travel techniques, fall recovery.



[Backcountry Nordic Ski School](#). Experience Colorado’s finest snow, away from the crowds and lift tickets! No experience necessary.



[Navigation 1](#). Intro to map and compass, reading topo maps, plotting a course, following a bearing, off-trail travel techniques.



[Fly Fishing](#). Learn about equipment, casting, knots, flies, fish behavior, and wading safety

GEAR DISCOUNTS

As a member of CMC, you can take advantage of up to 70% off some of your favorite outdoor gear brands, guidebooks, and partner experiences. See the [Membership Benefits](#) page for more information.

NOCO GROUP COURSES

CMC NOCO Group offers several courses in the Fort Collins area, including Climbing, Scrambling, Mountaineering, Navigation, Avalanche Safety, Skiing, and Snowshoeing. Find about all of them at the [NOCO Schools and Classes](#) page.