



AMC VOLUNTEER LEADER TOOLS: THE TRIP INTRODUCTION TALK

Arrival and Signing the Waiver

- Greet people as they arrive.
- Introduce yourself as the volunteer Leader.
- Explain the purpose of AMC's required Waiver Form
 - * Participant acknowledges and accepts the risks associated with the activity
 - * Participant releases AMC from liability

Introductions (Gather the Group Together)

- Introduce volunteer Leader(s), sweep, etc.
- Thank AMC members for supporting our mission of conservation, education and recreation. Invite others to join. Announce upcoming events.
- Have participants introduce themselves.
- Describe the trip (conditions; distance/duration; expected pace/time and levels of exertion; turn-around time; etc.)
- Describe the inherent risks involved in the activity of the day; ticks, hypothermia, strainers, ice; etc.
- Affirm that people have appropriate equipment, food, and water. Distribute any group safety gear (water treatment, sleeping bags, cue sheets, etc.)
- Ask if anyone has first aid or other training, and locate first aid kits.
- Review signals/communication strategies as needed.

Personal Responsibility

- Ask people to share concerns and personal medical conditions that could impact the activity with the Leader.
- Remind participants of safety needs (as appropriate), e.g., insect repellent, sunscreen, drink water, eat snacks, stay dry, tick check, PFD, helmet, etc.
- Ask them to inform a leader about trouble during the trip.
- Explain what to do about needing to use a bathroom.

Ground Rules and Expectations for Group Trips

- Volunteer Leader(s) are trained to make decisions in the best interest of group safety and comfort.
- Participants are responsible for monitoring each other and recognizing hazards.
- We will stay together as a group (stop at junctions, etc.)
- We may need to adjust our pace or plans.
- AMC is a Leave No Trace organization (carry in-carry out; stay on the trail; cell phone etiquette).
- Explain plans for breaks.
- Ask participants to remain close enough to see the person in front of them as applicable.
- Explain what to do if one gets separated from the group.

SAFETY AND FUN!!! LET'S GO.

