

Course Scheduling Information

For open enrollment Basic Wilderness Rescue course visit www.wildernesseri.com.

To set up a course or if you have a question contact -
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Basic Wilderness Rescue

16-Hour Course

The Rescue Discipline

Performing rescues in a wilderness environment presents unique hazards and skills unlike any other environment. The course Basic Wilderness Rescue is designed to introduce the student to these hazards as well as allow the students to practice some of the skills necessary for wilderness-based rescues.

Unlike most environments where rescues need to be performed, the wilderness environment is very unique. Factors such as weather, terrain and unique injuries all create special problems. In an urban environment, a snowstorm might not mean much in regard to how the rescue is performed; however, in the wilderness environment the same snowstorm will effect the injuries that might have to be dealt with (hypothermia), how evacuation from the scene will be accomplished (snowmobiles, snowcats) and the specialized equipment that a responder will need (fleece clothing, breathable rain gear).

In an urban environment the terrain might have very little if any effect on the rescue. For example, a person located on the shore of a stream might simply walk to the closest road on that side of the river. That same individual in a wilderness environment might need to be assisted

across the water and extricated on the other side of the river.

In addition to all of these situations the actual response to an emergency in a wilderness environment is unique. Responders need to be divided into hasty teams to locate and access the situation and extrication teams that move the victim to definitive care.

The Course

Basic Wilderness Rescue is a course designed to address the issues listed. The course is a 16 hour course made up of 3 hours of lecture (covering: wilderness rescue disciplines, backcountry rescue sequence of events, group rescue equipment, personal protective equipment, equipment selection, rescue team organization, special situations, scene size up and a review of the most common injuries that occur in the outdoors), 6 hours of hands on skills (stokes basket rigging, securing individuals into stokes baskets, stokes basket handling, improvised low angle operations and shallow water river crossings) and 7 hours of field scenarios (including a low angle stokes basket operations, non technical river crossings and night time wilderness rescue operation).

This course gives the student a sampling of the rescue disciplines necessary to

become an effective wilderness rescue technician. Upon completion of this course, the student will understand the necessity to continue with further rescue education as well as create a good base line of knowledge. This course is a prerequisite for the Advanced Wilderness Rescue Course.

General Information

All students who successfully complete this class will receive a certificate of completion. Students are required to provide their own helmet, work gloves, eye protection, proper footwear, clothing appropriate for the environment and material for taking notes. Wilderness Emergency Response Institute provides all other equipment necessary for this course.

This class is offered in both open enrollment and contracted course styles. This course can be offered anytime of the year in any weather conditions. To host a class, the hosting agent must provide a classroom setting that allows for a PowerPoint presentation as well as multiple field locations suitable for the scenarios.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.