



The Nordic Ski Patrols of the Western Appalachian Region will be offering Mountain Travel and Rescue 2 training this winter. Classroom training will be conducted on December 9-10, 2017 at the Laurel Summit Warming Hut at Forbes State Forest in the Laurel Highlands of Western Pennsylvania. There will be a 3 day field training exercise on March 2-3-4 2018 at Kooser State Park which will put skills learned in MTR 1 and the classroom training to practice in a winter field environment. In order to receive credit for the course, students must attend both the classroom and the field sessions. Successful completion of MTR 1 is a prerequisite for the MTR 2 course.

The purpose of this training is to provide ski patrollers with the knowledge and skills needed to serve as assets and leaders in search-and-rescue (SAR) operations, especially in winter settings and in mountain environments.

This course provides hands-on practice in wilderness navigation, mountain travel, and survival, including emergency shelters, planning backcountry operations, the Incident Command System, and SAR. .

The MTR2 program is scenario driven and designed to test outdoor skills in a winter setting. The field phase of the training will be conducted entirely outdoors and will require carrying all equipment necessary for the weekend either by pack or by pulk. Based on the amount of snowfall, we will travel by ski, snowshoe, or walk. Minimum distance will be 4-5 kilometers or more and will involve traversing rolling, wooded terrain.

The objective of all MTR training is to enable ski patrollers to serve as highly skilled, safety-conscious leaders of outdoor activities in the mountains, by providing a broad, balanced array of outdoor skills related to survival, navigation, travel, group dynamics, terrain management, environmental awareness, search and rescue, and emergency care.

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