

Trailhead Safety Talk

"Trail workers' safety is #1; having fun is next"

Sign-in Sheet

Have everyone sign the volunteer sign-in sheet. This effectively makes the volunteer a temporary employee of the Forest Service and provides liability insurance.

First Aid Kits

Identify the first aid kits and who will be carrying them.

Allergies

Ask if anyone has allergies, what the symptoms are and if they have medication.

Clothing

Wear long pants, long sleeve shirt, boots, gloves and hard hat. Have clothing for changing conditions.

Working with Tools

- Keep a tool's length distance from others (10' is best).
- Carry tools in hands, not on shoulders.
- Keep sharp edges away from body while carrying with the sharpest tool on the downhill side. Throw tool away from your body if tripping or falling.
- Ask for help when moving heavy loads.
- Use tools correctly. Ask if not sure how to use a certain tool.
- Rest when tired, drink plenty of water and have a lunch.
- Speak out "Coming by!" when passing other workers so there are no surprises.
- Warn others when hikers are approaching and be pleasant.
- Do only what you feel safe doing.
- Listen for changes in working directions.
- Bring back the same number of tools taken out on the trail.
- Work in groups of 3 or 4; never alone
- Each group should have a working radio. Check at start for operation.
- Know where meeting places are and wait for others at junctions.