



Update from Your Executive Director: March 27, 2020

Hello CMC Community,

As you already know, this is a tremendous community of adventurers. Even while we're under stay-at-home and social distancing orders, the positive energy continues to pulse through our organization with solutions today and plans for the future.

Many of our volunteers and staff are working diligently to develop digital and interactive experiences for you. They are also adjusting to our temporary conditions by managing a variety of cancellations and postponements while also ensuring we have plans to gear up quickly and meet your inevitable demands to get outside together, once we are on the other side of the curve. Thanks to them, thanks to you, our CMC continues to be highly relevant and especially during this time of crisis.

With the Colorado statewide stay-home order effective through April 11, and the Jefferson County stay-home order in effect until April 17, all CMC gatherings – trips, events, gatherings, and courses – remain postponed at this time and CMC staff will continue working remotely. We are committed to flattening the curve and will follow all recommendations from Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE).

For over 108 years (109 years next month) our mission has been to:


- To unite the energy, interest, and knowledge of the students, explorers, and lovers of the mountains of Colorado;
- Collect and disseminate information regarding the Rocky Mountains on behalf of science, literature, art, and recreation;
- Stimulate public interest in our mountain area;

- Encourage the preservation of forests, flowers, fauna, and natural scenery; and
- Render readily accessible the alpine attractions of this region.

CMC remains dedicated to that mission, especially in these trying times. We encourage you to get outdoors, breathe the fresh air, and soak up some sun. It is undeniably good for both your physical and mental health. But, now more than ever, it is imperative that we lead by example and live the CMC values to recreate responsibly.

How to Get Outside (during a pandemic)

- 01** Make the health of others your number one priority.
The COVID-19 pandemic is life and death for many people. Please conduct yourself in every respect with that in mind.
- 02** You can go outside. Cautiously.
Don't go out if you're sick or have been in contact with those who have. Keep a safe distance from others. That includes in the car. Groups are out. Consider avoiding busy areas and times of day. Wash your hands. Follow CDC guidelines carefully.
- 03** Stay close to home.
Like, as close as possible. Far away places or that recreation town an hour down the road are wonderful, but the further you travel, the more potential you have to spread illness. Shop and recreate in your neighborhood.
- 04** Keep it chill.
It's not a good time to get hurt. Healthcare systems are overwhelmed, or soon will be. Please do not add to the burden.
- 05** Respect closures and be a good steward.
If parks are closed, don't go. If parks are open, be mindful that areas might have limited maintenance. Pack out your trash, use the restroom before you leave the house. Check state guidelines and closures.



OUTDOOR ALLIANCE

Now is the time to think about how we can protect our Colorado lands, outdoor community, staff working in our Colorado Parks. Our partners, Colorado Search and Rescue (COSAR), want to reiterate that their rescue teams are prepared and ready to respond but could become overloaded if the number of calls increases and the number of available responders decreases. So, definitely get outside and close to home, we just encourage you to stay within your ability levels and do so responsibly and cautiously.

And, while we can't be outside together right now, we can still connect and help each other plan trips and learn new things in the meantime. Right now, volunteers and staff are hard at work creating CMC's new Outdoor Online University so we can stay connected and continue to hone our skills while at home. They are diligently creating benefits that CMC members will be able to enjoy now and in the future.

The support, enthusiasm to help, and creativity coming from our members, volunteers, and staff in the last few weeks has been tremendous. I am so proud to be a part of this community. I know that times are uncertain, but we are asking you to stick with us. Together, we will get through the crux of this climb and see a better CMC at the summit.

Here are five ways that you can help CMC during this time. All money collected during this time will go to support our CMC staff so they can continue creating programs and preparing to hit the trails running (biking or hiking) when we get through this difficulty.

Credit your course tuition to a future course

As you can imagine, the economic impact of COVID-19 on the Colorado Mountain Club has been significant. In lieu of a refund, we can credit your tuition to another course in the future, or your current course for when it is rescheduled. With volunteers and staff working diligently to create online learning opportunities with school directors, your course may be online sooner rather than later with field days to come when we can.

Donate to Colorado Mountain Club

If you are in a position to do so, you can donate your tuition or event registration to the Colorado Mountain Club. You can also support the Colorado Mountain Club at our [donation page](#), or on Venmo (@CMCDonation). We will send you a tax letter as proof of donation.

If you haven't done your taxes yet, you can support the CMC through your state tax refund through a new program called [ReFUND Colorado](#). If you are due a Colorado income tax refund, taking action is simple:

- Decide how much of your state income tax refund to donate (all or a portion of it).
- Enter Colorado Mountain Club and our registration number 20023003313 in the Donate to a Colorado Nonprofit Fund line on your state tax return or tax software – or give this info to your tax preparer when you share your tax documents.

Join or Renew your Membership

Just as on any climb, any mountain expedition, or any summit push, we are at the crux - the most difficult part of the mission. And, just like climbing, this will require the whole team to push through, and we are asking for your help.

Now through April 30, you will get 20% off your membership when you join or renew. If you have recently renewed, you can still take advantage of this offer. Your membership will be

extended another year from your expiration date. So, if your expiration date would have been March 2021, you can take advantage of this offer, and your membership will go through March 2022.

Use the code THECRUX in the discount code box at checkout to get 20% off all memberships.

[Join or Renew Here](#)

Enroll in the King Soopers Community Rewards Program

You can support CMC every time you shop at King Soopers with their [King Soopers Community Rewards Program](#). Log-in or create an account and then select Colorado Mountain Club, organization number DK603, as your preferred nonprofit. Then shop as normal and a percentage of your purchases will go directly to support CMC programming.

Shop Amazon Smile

I know we are all doing a lot of shopping on Amazon right now to avoid going out. If you use smile.amazon.com and select the Colorado Mountain Club as your non-profit of choice, Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchases to CMC.

Take care of yourselves and we will see you on the trails again soon.

With Gratitude,

Keegan Young