

INTOWN CREVASSE RESCUE WORKSHOP

Alaska Mountaineering School promotes excellence in responsible mountaineering and wilderness travel through educating and guiding others. Our hands-on, you do it approach leads to successful outcomes. We want you to be able to repeat the skills you learned without supervision. The rope safety systems involved with crevasse rescue are best introduced in a classroom setting before getting on a glacier.



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

The goal of this workshop is to teach you the fundamentals of crevasse rescue and roped glacier travel. Self-rescue skills and partner rescue drills form the backbone of the workshop. Special emphasis is placed on how to manage a loaded backpack and sled. There is a classroom component where we will cover glaciology and mechanical advantage. This class is conducted entirely on dry land in Talkeetna at AMS facilities.

SPECIFICATIONS

Cost: \$650

Prerequisite reading: Glacier Mountaineering: An Illustrated Guide to Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue by Andy Tyson & Mike Clelland

Group size: 2-8 students, 2 instructors

Tuition includes: Instruction and group climbing equipment. Each person will receive webbing and cordage necessary for a personal climbing safety rig.

You are responsible for: Transportation to and from Talkeetna, lunch, lodging, and personal equipment.

ITINERARY

We will meet at AMS at the start of each day and have a lecture format class. Class starts at 8:00 am and ends at 5:00 pm. There will be a one-hour lunch break.

Day 1

Glaciology, material strength, gear check, crevasse fall self-rescue, snow anchors, anchor alignment, rope handling, and roping up for glacier travel.

Day 2

Mechanical advantage, progress capture, probing, crevasse fall scenarios with 2, 3, and 4-person teams.

EQUIPMENT

April temperatures in Talkeetna are usually between 28-32 F. Expect up to three feet of snow on the ground. Please come prepared for cold conditions. AMS will provide all technical hardware such as carabiners, webbing, helmet, harness. You are welcome to bring your own harness and helmet if you prefer. AMS will also provide sleds, ropes, snow pickles, ice screws, and pulleys. Please bring the following items with you:

- Footwear: Bunny boots or Sorel-type boots with heavy socks for standing around in snow.
- Base layers: Long underwear top and bottom.
- Insulation layers: A wool sweater plus your warmest parka with hood.
- Warm gloves and mittens and hat.
- Backpack: Any backpack you have, preferably the one you are going to use when traveling on a glacier.

LODGING

There are many lodging options in Talkeetna. The list below includes some popular options within walking distance of AMS:

- Northern Guesthouse: www.talkeetnanorthernguesthouse.com
- Chinook Wind Cabins: www.talkeetna-alaska.net
- Swiss Alaska Inn: www.swissalaska.com
- Talkeetna Roadhouse: www.talkeetnaroadhouse.com
- Talkeetna Hideaway: www.talkeetnahideaway.com

FOOD

In April, restaurants are open during limited hours. Local restaurants include Denali Brewpub, Mt. High Pizza Pie, Latitude 62, Conscious Coffee, and Flying Squirrel Bakery Café. The AMS office bathroom, fridge, and kitchen are available for student use.