

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. 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: \$675

Prerequisite reading: Glacier Mountaineering: An Illustrated Guide to Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue by Andy Tyson & Mike Clelland. We will send you a copy upon enrollment.

Group size: 3-8 students, 1-2 instructors, 1:4 ratio.

Tuition includes: Instruction and all climbing equipment. Coffee and tea and muffins.

You are responsible for: Meals and lodging. Bathroom facilities and a microwave are available at AMS.

ITINERARY

We will meet at AMS and start class in the heated yurt each day at 8:30 am. Class runs to 6:00 pm. There will be a 45-minute lunch break.

Day 1

Glaciology, gear check, anchor building, rope handling, roping up for glacier travel with pack and sled, belaying, probing, wandering, and caches and running protection.

Day 2

Material strength, mechanical advantage, progress capture, fixed line ascension, and crevasse fall scenarios.

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, helmets, harnesses, and ice axes. You are welcome to bring your own harness, helmet, and axe if you prefer. AMS will provide sleds, ropes, snow pickets, ice screws, pulleys, and all the webbing and perlon. Please bring the following items with you:

- Footwear: A variety of warm footwear because it might be cold and dry or cold and wet. We will be outside traveling in the snow during many parts of the course.
- Gaiters: There may be slush or deep snow.
- Base layers: Long underwear layers, top and bottom.
- Shell layers: A couple of waterproof shell layers, top and bottom.
- Insulation layers: A wool sweater or fleece jacket plus your warmest parka with hood.
- Hands/Head: Warm ski gloves, liner gloves, mittens, and warm hat.
- Backpack: Any backpack you have, preferably the one you are going to use when traveling on a glacier. We can supply one if you don't have one.

LODGING

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

- Chinook Wind Cabins: www.talkeetna-alaska.net
- Swiss Alaska Inn: www.swissalaska.com
907-733-2424
- Latitude 62: www.latitude62.com 907-733-2262