

WILDERNESS FIRST AID COURSE

Sponsored by **NOLS Pacific Northwest** and **NOLS Wilderness Medicine**



DATES: May 4 – May 5

COST: \$250

LOCATION: **NOLS Pacific Northwest Campus, Conway, Washington**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Whether spending time in the backcountry is your passion or your profession, you should never have to ask, "What do I do now?" Prepare for the unexpected with this fun, hands-on introduction to wilderness medicine.

If you like to take short trips relatively close to medical resources, work at camps or lead wilderness trips, enjoy weekend family outdoor activities, or recreate outdoors, this course is for you.

You'll learn the Patient Assessment System, how to provide effective first aid treatments for injuries and illnesses common in the outdoors, how to manage environmental emergencies, and how to make appropriate evacuation decisions. You will spend half your time practicing skills and participating in realistic scenarios.

NOLS Wilderness Medicine's course is approved by such organizations as the American Camp Association, the United States Coast Guard, and other state as well as federal agencies.

Upon successful course completion you will earn the following NOLS Wilderness Medicine certifications: *Wilderness First Aid*, *Epinephrine Auto-injector*, and on courses with the CPR module, *Adult and Child CPR & Airway Management*.

CLASS FORMAT AND PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS

Check in is 7:45 a.m. on the first day. Course days run from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The class format is classroom lectures integrated with practical scenarios, case studies, and skills practice sessions. Attendance is required at all classes.

Scenarios and practice sessions will take place both inside and outside. Bring outdoor clothing appropriate for lying on the potentially wet, snowy, or cold ground playing the role of both rescuer and patient.

Frequently stage (moulage) blood and make-up are used to enhance the realism of a scenario. The classroom environment generally lends itself to a pair of comfy shoes and a camp chair.

PACKING CHECKLIST

- ✓ Notebook and pencil or pen
- ✓ Watch with second hand or digital second
- ✓ Sunglasses and hat
- ✓ Water bottle
- ✓ Light day pack
- ✓ Waterproof outerwear top and bottom
- ✓ Light hiking boots or sturdy shoes
- ✓ Clothing layers that allow you to be comfortable in a variety of weather conditions
- ✓ Slippers or comfortable shoes for classroom time (optional)
- ✓ Camp chair for classroom time (optional)

COURSE OUTLINE

For the full course outline, visit the WFA course page:

<https://nols.edu/en/coursefinder/courses/wilderness-first-aid-WFA/>.

WAFAs/ WFR/ WEMT RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

NOLS Wilderness Medicine certification holders may take a **Wilderness First Aid** (WFA) course to recertify a WAFAs, WFR or WEMT certification. Certification holders from other wilderness medicine training organizations cannot recertify through a Wilderness First Aid course.

NOLS Wilderness Medicine certifications will be afforded a one-year period after expiration within which to recertify. You should bring your certification card to the course so the instructor can verify the expiration date. For more information please visit our recertification policy at the following link: <https://nols.edu/en/courses/wilderness-medicine/recertify/>

The **Wilderness First Aid** (WFA) course is an introductory course for individuals with no prior knowledge and generally does not include CPR.

The preferred way to recertify your certification is to enroll in a Wilderness First Responder Recertification course (WFR-R), or through our Hybrid WFR Recertification course, which adds an online component in addition to traditional scenarios and skills.

These courses are specifically designed for students needing recertification. You can find more information at the links below.

WFR-R: www.nols.edu/en/courses/courses/wilderness-first-responder-recertification-WFRR/

Hybrid WFR-R: www.nols.edu/en/courses/courses/hybrid-wilderness-first-responder-recertification-HWRR/

You will be required to pass both a written and a practical test. Check the following web page for information and resources on how to best prepare for your course.

<https://nols.edu/en/resources/wilderness-medicine-resources/>

REGISTRATION

Tuition payment in full is required to reserve your spot in the course. You can pay your tuition online (we accept Visa or MasterCard), by calling the NOLS Wilderness Medicine office with credit card information, or by mailing a check (with driver's license number).

The tuition fee includes instruction, handouts, a field pocket-guide, equipment use, and certification. A full refund will be given if we need to cancel the course for any reason.

NOLS WILDERNESS MEDICINE STUDENT AGREEMENT

Please download this agreement and read it very carefully as it affects your legal rights: <https://www.nols.edu/en/filer/public/1481683959/906/>

Bring the two-page signed document to the first day of the course. If you are a minor, a parent or guardian must sign the document. Without a signed document, you cannot participate in the course.

NOLS Wilderness Medicine participants, including minors, will have unsupervised free time throughout the course. Any activities during the free time are not part of the NOLS Wilderness Medicine program and are at the sole risk of the participant.

NOLS WILDERNESS MEDICINE POLICIES

Cancellations

If you cancel or withdraw from a course:

- Greater than or equal to 30 days prior to the course start date, NOLS Wilderness Medicine will retain a \$35.00 administrative fee. The remainder of tuition collected to date will be refunded.
- Within 30 days of the course start date, tuition is non-refundable and non-transferable as per the following:
 - WFA, WFR-R, WMPP – loss of full tuition.
 - WFR, WAFA, WUMP – loss of course deposit.
- Once the course begins, no refunds will be awarded. All course registrations are non-transferable.

Pets

Pets are not allowed at the course site. This includes leashing them outside. Any student bringing a pet to class will be asked to leave until the pet is safely situated in a kennel or other facility. No exceptions.

Alcohol and Tobacco

No alcohol or tobacco is allowed on site.

COLLEGE CREDIT

Pre-Course Access to College Credit

The WFA course is pre-approved for 0.5 semester hour credits through Western State Colorado University (WSCU) for an additional cost of \$60. Thirty days **prior** to the NOLS Wilderness Medicine course, interested students must initiate registration and payment for credit by requesting an enrollment form for WSCU from NOLS Wilderness Medicine.

On-Course Access to College Credit

The WFA course is pre-approved for one semester hour credit through the University of Utah for an additional cost of \$95. If you are interested in receiving college credit, please ask your instructors on the first day of class for the necessary information.

STUDENT LOGISTICS

Meals and Lodging

Lunch is included in course tuition and will be served each day. Healthy meals including vegetarian options will be provided, but please contact NOLS Pacific Northwest at nols_pacificnw@community.nols.edu if you have special dietary needs or food allergies (note: certain food allergies may result in additional meal charges for individuals). Facilities for individual cooking will not be available.

Due to our campus hosting semester students, **NOLS Pacific Northwest is unable to provide camping** for this course.

Local camping options:

La Conner RV Resort & Campground (360) 724-5511
16362 Snee Oosh Road
La Conner, WA 98257
<http://www.thousandtrails.com/washington/la-conner-rv-camping-resort/>

Rasar State Park
38730 Cape Horn Road
Concrete, WA 98237
<http://www.parks.wa.gov/418/Rasar-State-Park>
(360) 826-3942

Bay View State Park
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
United States
(360) 757-0227

Burlington / Anacortes KOA
6397 North Green Road
Burlington, WA 98233
<http://koa.com/campgrounds/burlington/>

Local hotels:

Days Inn

2009 Riverside Drive
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
360-424-4141 or 800-329-7466

Best Western Skagit Valley Inn

2300 Market Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
360-428-5678

Travel

The course will take place at the NOLS Pacific Northwest campus. The campus is located approximately one hour north of Seattle, WA. The address is 20950 Bulson Road, Mt. Vernon, WA 98274. Please see below for specific directions.

Exit Interstate 5 at EXIT #221 for Conway and La Conner. Turn EAST at the end of the ramp and go east 1 mile. Turn left onto Bulson Road and then left into the first driveway. Follow signs to parking area.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

NOLS Pacific Northwest:

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm Pacific Time (starting in March)

Phone: (360) 445-6657

Email: pacific_northwest@nols.edu (best contact before March)

Fax: (360) 445-6659

Website: www.nols.edu

NOLS Wilderness Medicine:

Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm Mountain Time.

Phone: (866) 831-9001

Fax: (307) 335-2355

Email: wilderness_medicine@nols.edu

Website: www.nols.edu/wilderness-medicine

