

WILDERNESS FIRST AID COURSE

Sponsored by *Colvig Silver Camps* and *NOLS Wilderness Medicine*



DATES: May 27th & 28th, 2026

COST: \$300.00 Tuition Only

LOCATION: Colvig Silver Camps, Durango, CO | 9665 County Road 240 Durango, CO

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. Plan on arriving to the site by **7:30 AM** to ensure you are on time to the class as our site is fairly large (please note we are in the middle of staff training for our camp staff – some flexibility may be required). 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 (mouillage) 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/>.

WAFA/ WFR/ WEMT RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

NOLS Wilderness Medicine certification holders may take a **Wilderness First Aid** (WFA) course to recertify a WAFA, 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. Tuition is non-transferable. Tuition is payable by check (with driver's license number) or cash. The tuition fee covers textbooks, syllabus, equipment and certification cards. NOLS is not obligated to allow any student to attend a course until all NOLS paperwork has been received, reviewed and approved by NOLS. A full refund will be given if we are forced 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.

Travel insurance is recommended; NOLS's preferred provider is [MDM](#).

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, CSC 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

ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO IS ALLOWED ON SITE.

STUDENT LOGISTICS

Meals and Lodging

There is not a lodging option for this course. However, **we will provide** lunch both days of the course. If you are in need of lodging options, please feel free to call our office for suggestions of local hotels, motels, and camping options in the Durango area.

Travel

Colvig Silver Camps is located approximately 10 miles northeast of Durango. If traveling in Durango, north on Highway 550 (also Main Ave.), take a right onto 32nd St. (next to City Market North). Follow this until the road ends and make a right on CR 250. Follow this briefly until you get to a light and make a left onto Florida Rd/CR240. Follow Florida Rd. approximately 7 miles and there will be a sign for CR 246 and a small wooden sign for Colvig Silver Camps on your left. Take a left onto CR 246 and follow 1/8 mile to the Colvig Silver Camps entrance on your right. Follow signs to the office, check in there, and we will give you further directions to your classroom.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Course Host

Office Hours: *10am – 4pm MST, Monday - Friday*

Phone: *(970) 247-2564*

Email: *tyler@colvigsilvercamps.com*

Fax: *(970) 247-2547*

Website: *www.colvigsilvercamps.com*

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*

