

## Treetop Explorer Weather Cancellations

Severe weather presents safety concerns for climbers and staff; therefore, Treetop Explorer, LLC reserves the right to cancel a climb due to weather forecasts or current weather conditions.

Since weather conditions have the potential to reduce the amount of time registrants can climb during a climb event, we may determine the need to cancel a climb based on forecasted conditions out of courtesy for registrants and parents. In addition, weather conditions immediately prior to and following a climb may be cause for cancellation should they threaten the safety of our staff during the time we need to prepare for or clean up after a climb.

Given the inconsistency with weather forecasts, we typically do not make the call for cancellation until the day of the event. We typically make the call for cancellation **2-3 hours prior to the start of a climb**.

Once we make the decision to cancel a climb due to climber safety issues posed from weather, we will contact the registrants using the information provided at registration; email and/or phone.

### **Weather conditions of safety concern:**

- 1- Thunder and/or Lightning – When we hear thunder or see lightning, all climbers will return to the ground and be instructed to seek appropriate shelter. Climbers will not be placed back on rope until approximately 15 minutes after the last rumble is heard and radar shows the system has cleared the area.
- 2- High Winds – High winds involve a judgement call, taking into consideration wind speed, expected gusts, and characteristics of the tree or park where the climb is located. In general, forecasted sustained windspeed in excess of 20mph will typically be cause for cancellation due to climber safety concerns. Tolerance for windspeed may be lower in some locations.
- 3- Precipitation – Light rain and snow by themselves are not necessarily a safety issue or cause for cancellation. A judgement call is made, taking into consideration intensity of expected precipitation, air temperature, and the ground conditions beneath the tree.
  - a. Rain, snow and low temperatures do not pose a significant safety concern in regard to the climbing equipment.
  - b. Body temperature increases while climbing. Climbers can dress in layers and wear outerwear appropriate for expected weather conditions.
  - c. Foot traffic on super-saturated soils can cause damage to the park area or injury to the tree's roots and are taken into consideration.

**Should weather conditions develop during a climb in session which cause concern for climber safety, delays or cancellations will be implemented by Treetop Explorer, LLC without prior notice.**

Climbs cancelled due to weather concerns may be rescheduled for a later date. If a registrant is unavailable for the rescheduled date or if there isn't a make-up climb scheduled, registrants will be contacted by the registering organization to provide options for the associated fee: transfer to alternative climb, retain on account as credit, or refund.

### Climber Comfort:

Since tree climbing is an exciting outdoor activity and new to most participants, climbers typically enjoy climbing regardless of weather conditions (within reason). Each climber/observer has a different threshold of tolerance for certain weather conditions, so please consider the typical weather for your area given the time of year a climb is scheduled before you register. Weather is variable regardless the time of year; therefore, should the forecasted weather cause concern for your comfort (yet not to a point that requires cancellation on our part due to safety concerns:

- Rec Climbs are subject to the host Organization/Recreation Department's cancellation & refund policies. Refer to their policies regarding the ability to cancel, change, or request refund of your registration fees. (Many do not allow day-of cancellation/refund)
- Treetop Explorer hosted events (Open, Open-Advanced, Adult, and Girl Scout Open climbs) - contact us the day before or at least 3 hours prior to the start of your climb to discuss options for transferring to another climb, receiving a credit for future use, or refund of your registration fee.
- Private Events - client can cancel based on weather conditions related to your guests' comfort. This decision needs to be made no less than 3 hours prior to the scheduled start of the event. If cancelled for any reason, we work together to reschedule your climb.