

Tree Climbing Facilitation

Introducing People to Recreational Tree Climbing

Introduction

The *Tree Climbing Facilitation* course covers the basic skills and guidelines necessary to prepare and run a facilitated recreational tree climbing event. Facilitated events enable inexperienced climbers the opportunity to climb trees in a controlled environment under the direction of a qualified tree climbing facilitator.

The moment you decide to take on the responsibility of enabling another person to ascend off the ground and into the canopy of a tree, you are responsible for their well-being.

The course will introduce and discuss tree and site assessment, recommended climbing systems, instructional techniques, participant monitoring and aerial rescue. Students are introduced to the techniques, systems, guidelines, procedures, and methods used to organize, prepare, and facilitate climbing events. Proper implementation of these topics can provide a positive participant experience and minimize the associated risks inherent of recreational tree climbing.

Prerequisites:

This course utilizes and builds on the skills covered in the *Beginning Tree Climbing* course. Qualified applicants for the *Tree Climbing Facilitation* course will have successfully completed the *Beginning Tree Climbing 2-day* course. Course work, experience, or training from outside organizations may be accepted in lieu of the *Beginning Tree Climbing* course if approved by the instructor.

Coursework covers:

- Facilitated climb procedures
- Rigging of participant climbing systems
- Climber preparation & instruction
- Modified climbing systems
- Aerial rescue techniques
- Tree health & hazard assessment
- Communication with climbers and the public
- Fear sensitivity & learning styles
- Ethics, safety standards, safe facilitation practices

Course Manual:

All students receive a copy of *Tree Climbing Facilitation: Introducing People to Recreational Tree Climbing*. The manual is for informational purposes only, utilized as a reference to information covered during the *Tree Climbing Facilitation* course as instructed by approved instructors.

Facilitation Proficiencies:

After completion of the 3-day Tree Climbing Facilitation course and after receiving a “satisfactory” rating in each of the 4 Skills Assessments, students will have successfully demonstrated that they understand and are capable of properly identifying a tree conducive for a facilitated climb event, setting up proper MRS climbing systems according to industry recommended guidelines, suiting up and providing instruction on the climbing technique for climbers, and assisting or providing aerial rescue when warranted.

Demonstrating proficiency in the information and skills covered during *Tree Climbing Facilitation* course does not constitute nor intend to imply that the student is adequately prepared or qualified to teach others how to climb trees on their own nor instruct tree climbing training courses.