

Northeast Ohio Backpacking Club

INFORMED CONSENT/WAIVER Backpacking/Hiking/Camping

I, _____, will be participating in a backpacking, hiking, and/or camping trip with the Northeast Ohio Backpacking Club at _____ on _____.
(Location) (Date)

I recognize and acknowledge the following:

I am of the lawful age of 18 years or older.

I am responsible for the well-being and behavior of any children whom I have chosen to accompany me on this activity. Child's (or Children's) Name(s) and Age(s):

I am aware of the inherent risks of bodily injury or death associated with backpacking/hiking/camping, including those activities that take place outdoors. I realize that those risks include, but are not limited to, bad decision-making, exposure to extreme weather conditions, and sleeping outdoors. I understand that there may be unforeseeable events and accidents, and I assume all risks associated with such occurrences.

I acknowledge that backpacking/hiking/camping are dangerous activities and voluntarily assume the risks of bodily injury and property damage, which may be incurred as a result of participating in these activities. I agree to assume all risks of personal injury, including, but not limited to, paralysis and death, that may occur while I am backpacking/hiking/camping with the Northeast Ohio Backpacking Club, whether in the company of other members or alone, at any time during the trip.

I am fully aware and thoroughly informed of the hazards of backpacking/hiking/camping; further, I have read and fully understand the following:

Backpacking/hiking/camping are physical activities involving a large amount of walking and physical exertion. Participants must be in good general health, free from cardiovascular and respiratory disease, and have good exercise tolerance. Even momentary impairment of consciousness while backpacking/hiking/camping may be fatal.

There are other related problems that include, but are not limited to, reduced visibility if inclement weather such as rain, lightning, wind, snow, sleet or hail and cold temperatures occur.

The individual participant must realize that he/she is ultimately responsible for his/her own safety. It is clearly the participant's responsibility to refuse to participate if, in his/her judgment, conditions are unsafe.

I affirm that, to the best of my knowledge, I am in good physical and mental health and free from cardiovascular, respiratory or other diseases or ailments, which could endanger me, or others, while participating in this activity. I understand that travel to and from the site entails risks of bodily injury or property damage. I should carry appropriate copies of photo identification and health insurance identification while traveling.

In full awareness of the above and in consideration of my participation in this activity, I waive, release and discharge any and all claims for death, personal injury or property damage against the Northeast Ohio Backpacking Club, or the trip organizer, as a result of my participation in the trip or backpacking/hiking/camping activities. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Northeast Ohio Backpacking Club from any claim or loss for death, bodily injury or property damage arising in any manner out of my presence or activities in the course of my participation during this event's period of time. Furthermore, the undersigned member/guest acknowledges that the risks outlined above are not intended to be all-inclusive and voluntarily accepts all risks known or unknown. It is further understood and agreed that this waiver, release, indemnity and assumption of risk is to be binding on my heirs and assigns.

Participant's / Guardian's Signature