

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the **Wilderness Emergency Medical Responder Refresher** at Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont. We are looking forward to spending a busy and educational weekend with you. **Please read this letter in full, as it contains essential information for your visit to Tremont.**

Arrival and Departure:

Plan to arrive at Tremont on Friday between 11:00 am and noon to have enough time to move into the dorm and meet other participants before lunch. Lunch will be served at 12:00 pm. The program will begin in the Activity Center after lunch.

When you arrive, head to the Visitor's Center at the Main Office for name tags and check-in. You can then pull up to the pavilion to unload your belongings if you are staying on campus. Please move all vehicles to the blacktop at the bottom of the hill before lunch.

The program will end on Sunday around 3:00 pm.

View the full course schedule here.

Parking Passes

Valid parking tags are required on any vehicles parking for longer than 15 minutes inside Great Smoky Mountains National Park as part of the Park it Forward program; this includes when parked at Tremont. **Please purchase your parking tag in advance, not when you arrive.** Click here to <u>purchase your daily or weekly pass online</u>. All revenue will stay in the park to provide sustainable, year-round support focusing on improving the visitor experience, protecting resources, and maintaining trails, roads, historic structures, and facilities. <u>Learn more about Park it Forward.</u>

Weather - Be Prepared:

The average daily high temperature at Tremont in January is 54°F and the average daily low is 28°F here in Walker Valley. *Come prepared for extended outdoor activity*. Bring comfortable hiking boots, lots of warm layers, clothes that can get dirty, extra socks, warm headgear, gloves, and glasses or goggles for eye protection. Bring a raincoat! The Smokies are a very wet and humid climate and you can *expect precipitation in one form or another* at some point during your stay here.

Logistics:

Please read our <u>latest COVID-19 guidelines</u> prior to your trip and let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Please read the "<u>Your Visit to Tremont</u>" document for important packing information. Along with your linens and toiletries, you may want to bring a mattress pad to ease the firm mattress, plus a

bedside light or headlamp if you are a late-night reader. If you'd like to bring a camp chair for the outdoor classroom, you may find that more comfortable than the provided benches.

Please pay particular attention to the list of items to bring with you. Here are a few reminders:

- Bring your own bedding and bath towels for the dorm.
- There are no required textbooks but feel free to bring books for reference.
- Bring writing materials (notebook, pens, pencils, paper, etc.).

Wifi is available in the Activity Center, but we invite and encourage you to unplug for the weekend. Learn more about our <u>food</u> and <u>facilities</u>. Please note that food is not allowed in the dorm.

I hope that this information is helpful to you in planning for your upcoming visit to Tremont. Questions about the course content can be directed to Kirk Harris: (865) 539-6904 or harrisk@roanestate.edu. If you have further questions about your time at Tremont, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

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