

Expedition Alpine's Trail Steward Challenge

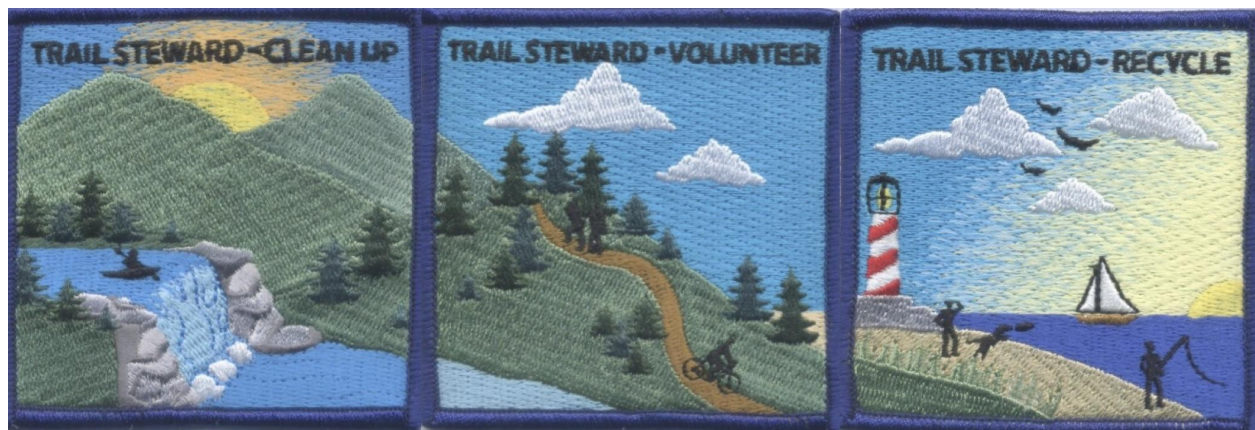
Instructions and Rules

Across the United States, and especially in the Northeast, hiking challenges have become extremely popular. These challenges require you to complete a list of summits, hike into specific locations, paddle certain lakes, or have certain adventures. Once completed, you can apply for a commemorative patch by filling out the respective paperwork and sending in a small fee to cover production and shipping costs.

While these challenges are a lot of fun, they always focus on getting people into the outdoors. Hiking more, doing more, seeing more. With so many of our public lands struggling with overuse and understaffing, this puts undue stress on our favorite places. Overly worn hiking trails, trash accumulation, vandalism of sites, and unkept campsites, privies, and other high-use locations are all signs of stress on our public lands.

The Trail Steward Challenge was designed to be different! **This challenge officially began on June 21st, 2021.** Our three-part challenge focuses on cleaning up and giving back to our public lands. We will award the first patch for cleaning garbage off the trails, the second for cleaning recyclables off the trails and bringing them to the proper facilities, and the third for volunteering your time on the public lands. These commemorative patches, when lined up together, create a mural of public lands and outdoor recreation.

The Patches:



Trail Clean Up: minimum of 150 lbs/22.68kg of trash

Recycle: minimum of 150 lbs/22.68kg of recyclable trash

Volunteer: minimum of 150 volunteer hours

Instructions:

- Collect a minimum of 150 lbs/22.68kg of trash or recyclables, or volunteer a minimum of 150 hours
- Document trash/recyclable collections or volunteer hours on the downloadable tracker forms. You will likely need to print out more than one sheet to complete the challenge.
- Fill out questionnaire (at bottom of tracker) and entire application (below)
- Mail to the address on our website with \$10 USD per patch. (In most cases, this patch fee will cover shipping back to you. We reserve the right to contact you if shipping abroad is more than expected.)
 - **Please double check the current address! We are a military family and move frequently.**

Current address until April 2025:

Expedition Alpine

2025 Eastwind Ct

Rosamond, CA

93560

Rules:

- Anyone can compete, any ability level and any age.
- Any outdoor recreation that can be done solo is acceptable (ex: hiking, kayaking, bird watching, mountain biking, walking your dog, fishing, geocaching, etc. Examples of **not acceptable** sports: team sports like football, soccer, etc.).
- Any public lands are acceptable. (ex: National parks/recreation areas/forests, State parks/recreation areas, city parks, public bike paths, paved public recreation trails. These may be local or abroad).
- Trash may only count towards **one** patch. If it is recyclable trash, **you must choose** which challenge you want it to count for. The goal for this challenge is to get as much waste off the trail as possible!
- Recyclables must be disposed of properly (ex: brought to redemption center, transfer station, put in household recycling pick up, etc)
- Volunteer hours must be done in cooperation with an organization. These hours can come from tree plantings, invasive species removal, trail work and clean up, lean to repair, summit or trailhead stewarding, working a booth at an event or at a front desk, and more. All volunteer work **must be** unpaid to count.
- You can have your friends or your kids join you, but each must collect their own trash/volunteer their own time and fill out separate paperwork for it.
- Anything on or after June 21st, 2021 counts towards the challenge.

- Participants who complete all three challenges will receive a roster number and be listed on our website as a finisher!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip: _____

Country: _____

Which challenges are you applying for? (Please circle):

Trail Clean Up

Recycle

Volunteer

Have you completed any previous challenges? (If yes, please circle):

Trail Clean Up

Recycle

Volunteer

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ - _____

Date of Challenge Completion: _____

How did you find out about this challenge?

What were your favorite and least favorite memories from this challenge?
