

Fall Frolic Weekend

October 21-23, 2016

Overview and Climbing Information

1. Overview

Fall Frolic Weekend is a time for the AMC Boston Rock Climbing community to come together with other AMC Chapter climbers for a weekend of climbing at the Shawangunk ridge which is about 7 miles west of New Paltz, NY. The Gunks is a world class climbing area that has figured prominently in the history and development of the sport. It contains hundreds of outstanding and challenging routes at all levels.

We will be climbing Saturday and Sunday. The leaders will NOT be providing and partner matchmaking. If you need a partner please use the carpooling spreadsheet.

- New Paltz, NY, is about 4 hours from Boston. Most people drive down to New Paltz on Friday, climb a full day on Saturday, climb on Sunday until mid or late afternoon, and then head back to Boston.
- The registration fee covers camping Friday and Saturday nights (Sunday too, if you wish) and a catered dinner at 7:30pm on Saturday night. It does not cover admission to the Mohonk Preserve (\$17/day for climbers unless you buy an annual membership) or Minnewaska State Park (\$10/day).
- The registration deadline is Sunday October 16. You must register on our website and pay the registration fee by then.
- After dinner on Saturday, we will hold our traditional raffle with fabulous prizes, including a climbing rope! Tickets are \$1 each, so bring some cash!
- For any questions, email frolic@amcbostonclimbers.com to reach the Fall Frolic Weekend trip leaders, Mike Mullins and Eric Engberg.

2. Registration

Registration is available only through our website. Please note that camping and Saturday dinner are a package deal.

3. Logistics

3.1. Carpooling

We will be setting up a Google Docs spreadsheet for Fall Frolic weekend to help coordinate carpooling. Check the website for the link.

3.2. Camping

Please see the separate "Venue Information" document.

3.3. Food

Friday dinner – some people will probably get together for dinner in New Paltz. The Gilded Otter and Bacchus are popular choices, though there are plenty of restaurants to choose from.

Breakfasts – You are responsible for your own breakfasts. A few people have been known to cook or at least boil water at the campsite for breakfast, a few may go into New Paltz, and some may cook breakfast at the West Trapps parking lot. Another popular breakfast spot is the Mountain Harbor Deli at the junction of NY-299 and NY-55/US-44 which is on the way to the Mohonk Preserve.

Lunches – You are responsible for your own lunches. At the Mohonk Preserve, you will need to take your lunch with you; don't plan on going back to your car. Some people will take a lunch break during the day (possibly while waiting in line for a climb), while others may have a bite on the go between climbs. There is generally no problem leaving food in your pack at the base of the climb.

Saturday dinner: doors open at 6:30pm, dinner starts at 7:30pm. Disposable plates and silverware will be provided. See the separate "Venue" document for additional information.

3.4. Climbing

- Note that cell phone reception is not so great in the West Trapps parking lot. Once you hike up to the Carriage Road, reception is good.
- It's best to carpool to the West Trapps lot so we don't fill it up!
- You shouldn't have any problem parking in the West Trapps lot at 7:30am, but if you are arriving later and that lot fills up, you will have to park down by the Visitor Center (preferably in the upper lot). From there, it's a steep ¼ mile hike up to reach the Carriage Road.
- There is no drinking water available at the West Trapps lot, so make sure you bring what you need!
- There are two vault toilets at the West Trapps lot, a port-a-potty on the trail up to the Carriage road, and one vault toilet on the Carriage Road.
- The Mohonk Preserve charges a fee of \$17/day for climbers. If you are committed to getting back to the Gunks, an annual membership is \$95 for climbers (\$85 for students). Last we checked, you can apply the value of one day pass towards an annual membership within 2 weeks of your day pass date, but ask the attendant for details if you're interested.
- From the parking lot, it's a 20-30 minute hike to the climbs, with a little uphill at the start and end.
- Climbs at the Gunks are generally 1-3 pitches. Assume roughly 1 hour per pitch, but some parties can be faster or slower. The descent can be a walkoff (sometimes with a 5.0 downclimb) or a rappel.
- You should bring water and food with you. Don't plan on going back to your car during the day.
- Most people will hike in with all their gear in their pack and leave their packs at the base of the climb. (Some people may instead gear up in the parking lot.)