



American Hiking Society's Monthly Newsletter
December 2020



Hike the Hill® Advocacy Week Going Virtual in 2021

Save the Dates (March 8-26, 2021) and have your organization join AHS, the Partnership for the National Trails System, and the trails community for Hike the Hill® 2021. This annual event brings together the trails community to advance shared trail priorities with congressional and federal agency leaders including trails funding, public lands management, Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI), and other top priority issues that sustain trails and improve access to public lands.

[Find Out More](#)



YOU make the difference!

Please don't delay in helping people of all ages experience unique opportunities to engage in the outdoors with American Hiking Society. Give today! Through the CARES Act, your gift this year to AHS can be deducted on your federal tax return up to \$300 even if you take the standard deduction.

[Give Today](#)



Gifts for People Who Spend Time Outdoors

Liz "Snorkel" Thomas, AHS Ambassador and former NextGen Trail Leader, recently launched [Treeline Review](#). Using their staff's experience, field-testing, and a meta-review process that takes into account expert opinions and everyday users, *Treeline Review* seek to bring you gear reviews with perspective. Their content is outstanding and we want to share it with you.

In a weird year when meeting with loved ones in person has become difficult, thoughtful gift-giving can be a way to show we care for others. This list includes *Treeline Review's* favorite outdoor items this year—things they've personally given as gifts or presents they've enjoyed receiving. Meanwhile, they recognize the financial challenges of 2020. All good gifts—no matter their size or cost—can make getting outdoors a little easier. From

affordable luxuries to upgraded gear, whether in the backcountry or backyard camping, life made more pleasant is something we all could use a little more of in 2020.

[Check Out the Gift Guide](#)



An Altruistic Alternative for Spring Break!

Do you want to make a difference over your spring break?

American Hiking Society's Alternative Breaks are volunteer trail stewardship projects in America's parks and forests designed specifically for college student groups and young professionals. Part volunteer work project, part kick-back outdoor vacation.

We have been working with our project hosts to provide an experience that is safe, organized, and factors in COVID-19 safety guidelines. Connect with nature, share adventures with your peers, and have a truly memorable and rewarding vacation!

[Learn More](#)



Icard Merrill provides legal services throughout the state of Florida and is proud to support AHS. Contact Brad for feedback or questions about AHS or Florida legal matters.



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Short Film Recommendation: *Within Weakness*

AHS staff member, Wesley Trimble, will premiere his newest short film, *Within Weakness*, at a virtual event hosted by Rocky Mountain Field Institute on December 17 at 6pm MST. (A recording of the event will be available after the event)

Within Weakness shares how cerebral palsy hinders Wesley's strength and coordination on the right side of his body, but it hasn't thwarted his goal to climb all 54 of Colorado's 14,000-foot peaks. Along the way he discovered great strength within weakness, though tragedy taught him these adventures could cost him everything.

[Watch the Premiere](#)



Keep Your Winter Drinks Warm in the *Hike* Travel Mug

Enjoy those cold mornings with a hot drink and those warm fuzzy feelings every time you remember your support protects the places you love to hike.

Order Now



Support American Hiking with Your Amazon Purchases

Next time you want to shop on Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com and a portion of eligible purchases will be donated back to AHS! Selecting AHS as your charity is easy.

1. Visit: smile.amazon.com
2. Choose American Hiking Society as your charity of choice.
3. Do your Amazon shopping through smile.amazon.com.

Start Shopping



Hiking 101: Sleeping Bag and Pad

Good sleep out on the trail will make a multi-day trip much more enjoyable. If you are thinking about purchasing a sleeping bag this holiday season check out our tips for choosing the right bag.

[Learn More](#)

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Founded in 1976, American Hiking Society is the only national nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering all to enjoy, share, and preserve the hiking experience.

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