



Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area

Requirements for Group Climbing at Rocky Face Park

When considering approval or denial of a permit the Park Superintendent takes the following criteria into consideration. Please read the following conditions as they will inform you about permit approval criteria as well as your responsibilities as a permit applicant and leader of a rock climbing group.

Organized groups are defined by Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area as any organized group, which is guided or instructed by a commercial business, not-for-profit, school, church, club, or private organization. Cooperating agencies may be exempted from specific conditions of this permit at the discretion of the Park Superintendent or his/her designee.

1. Organized groups are managed through the group climbing permit process. All organized groups are required to submit a group climbing permit to the Park Superintendent. An application for a group climbing permit shall be submitted **at least** 14 days in advance of the activity. Group climbing permit applications will be approved or denied within 10 business days. There is a \$45.00 fee **per** group climbing permit.
2. A daily climbing permit/liability waiver is required for each individual in the group prior to rock climbing. This permit is a day use only. If groups are climbing multiple days, a permit/waiver must be submitted for each day. If participants are under the age of 18, a parent/guardian signature is required. These requirements are necessary for securing emergency contact information, to protect Alexander County, Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area, and its agents; and to provide usage statistics, which are necessary to justify decisions for additional climbing resources.
3. Group size is limited to 10 persons, including climbing participants and instructors **per** special climbing permit.
4. Each climbing group will maintain a **minimum** of 8 students to 1 instructor ratio.
5. Each climbing group must have a qualified climbing instructor to AGMA, PCIA, or BSA and must produce proof of qualification.

For top-roping, instructors must have one of the following certificates:

- Single Pitch Instructor, certified by the American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA); or
- Single Pitch Climbing Instructor, certified by the Professional Climbing Instructor's Association (PCIA).
- BSA Climbing Instructor, certified by the Boy Scouts of America.

For lead climbing on single or multi-pitch routes, instructors must have one of the following certificates

- Rock Instructor or Rock Guide certified by the AMGA; or
- Lead Climbing Instructor Certified by the PCIA.
- BSA Lead Climbing Instructor, certified by the Boy Scouts of America.

6. Group leader must be certified at minimum in CPR/First Aid will maintain with their group a first aid kit.
7. Organization must provide proof of general liability insurance in the amount of \$1 million/occurrence and \$1 million/aggregate. Alexander County Government, 621 Liledoun Road, Taylorsville, NC 28681 must be named as an additionally insured on the certificate of insurance.



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8. Participants and instructors **MUST** wear helmets and other appropriate gear.
9. Groups will not leave roped routes unattended in such a fashion that limits the use of climbing routes by the general public. Routes left roped and unattended will be assumed to be abandoned. **Ropes left unattended on routes will be discarded if the owner cannot be located.**
10. Climbing routes and areas **cannot** be reserved. If a climbing route or area is already in use, the group must wait until the user(s) has completed their use or select another route/area.
11. Climbers cannot enter the park or the climbing area prior to posted opening hours, and must leave the climbing area prior to posted closing time.
12. Groups will adhere to all general park regulations, park regulations regarding rock climbing, and special activity permits as pursuant to the regulations which are attached to these conditions. It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure all climbers associated with his/her group are familiar with and abide by all rules regarding climbing.
13. Park Superintendent has the right to deny group climbing permits as his/her discretion. If a permit is denied, the applicant shall be so informed in writing, with the reason(s) for the denial set forth.
14. Park Superintendent has the right to close or limit daily capacity for specific routes based on natural resource protection or public safety.
15. Park Superintendent or Park Staff have authority to revoke this permit and require removal of any equipment upon failure of the permittee to comply with the terms and/or conditions of the permit. In the event a permit is revoked the fee is non-refundable.

If you have any questions, please contact the Park Superintendent. Thank you for your participation in our permitting system and for helping us make rock climbing a safe and positive experience for all.

General Rock Climbing, Bouldering, and Rappelling Rules and Regulations

- All climbing/bouldering/rappelling participants must submit a climbing permit/waiver to the Park Office prior to climbing. Youth under the age of 18 must have parent/guardian signature.
- Youth under the age of 18 **must** have adult supervision **at all times**.
- No one under the age of 18 is allowed on top ledge of quarry unless rappelling and secured by rope/gear.
- Alcohol and tobacco are **STRICTLY** prohibited.
- Trad and Solo climbing are **STRICTLY** prohibited.
- Report any accidents to Park Staff immediately.
- Climb only in designated areas and only during park hours.
- Report any hardware problems to Park Staff immediately.
- The installation, adjustment, or maintenance of any fixed hardware is **STRICTLY prohibited**. New routes are **NOT PERMITTED**.
- Helmets **MUST** be worn and mats **MUST** be used when bouldering.