



**Wilderness
Stewardship
Since 1985**



June 2025 Newsletter

IPWA News



**Mark Your Calendars
for Our Upcoming Trail Work Days!**

Join us on these days to work on important trails and build community with other volunteers excited to help out!

- July 12th
- August 2nd
- August 23rd
- September 20th

Sign up and work details will be available 2-3 weeks before each project. Reach out to ipwatrailcrew@gmail.com with any questions!

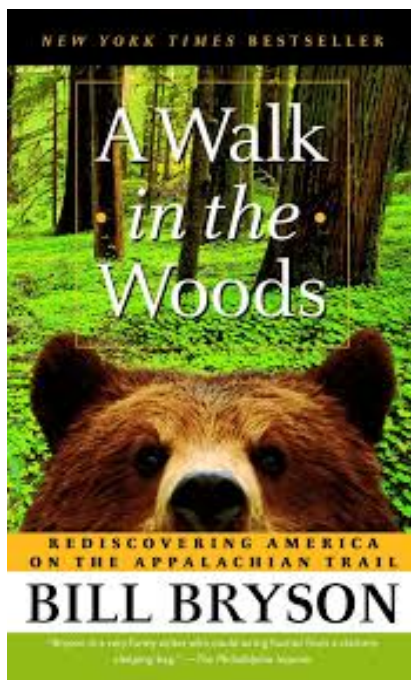
Reading Group

Please join us to discuss books about wilderness, nature, and conservation. All are welcome. Come and share your reflections and experiences.

We'll meet on the following dates at 3:30 pm at The Rayback Collective in Boulder. Food and beverages available.

July 17: *A Walk in the Woods*, Bryson **RSVP**

Sept 25: *Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter*, Ben Goldfarb **RSVP**



[*A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail*](#) is a funny book, full of dry humor in the native-American grain. It is also a serious book. Nothing really terrible happened to the author, but by playing on our fears, he captures the ambivalence of our feelings about the wild. We revere it but we're also intimidated. He was often exhausted, his "brain like a balloon tethered with string, accompanying but not actually part of the body below." The reader, by contrast, is rarely anything but exhilarated. And you don't have to take a step.

Come Say Hi at the Boulder Farmers Market!

We're teaming up with the U.S. Forest Service at the Boulder Farmers Market on Tuesday, July 9th from 3:30–7:30 p.m.

Stop by our booth to learn more about IPWA's work, meet some of our volunteers, and chat with USFS staff about public lands stewardship. We'd love to see you there!

Trailhead Hosts & Leave No Trace Outreach

Starting in July, IPWA volunteers will be staffing the Mitchell Lake and Long Lake Trailhead huts on weekends to welcome hikers and share stewardship info. We're also hosting Trailhead Events at:

- East Portal on Friday, **July 4th**
- Hessie Trailhead on Sunday, **July 13th** (in collaboration with USFS at the newly renovated cabin)

At East Portal, we'll be handing out Wag Bags to interested backpackers and sharing tips on how to "Poop Like a Pro" as part of our Leave No Trace education efforts. Come say hi, learn something new, and help protect our wild places!

Program Updates

Training Day Success

The Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance kicked off the summer patrol season with our annual training day on the first Saturday in June. The training committee welcomed **34 new volunteers** along with **54 returning volunteers** for a great day of learning and fellowship. The Boulder Ranger District team joined to provide valuable information to our new volunteers and to field questions from returning volunteers around year over year procedural changes.

Nearly 20 returning volunteers stepped up to deliver content throughout the day. Morning sessions focused on proper patrol scheduling, patrol preparation, safety in the wilderness, visitor interactions, and backcountry zones. In the afternoon, our volunteers participated in scenarios around active violations, assisting injured hikers, and fire ring dismantling.

The IPWA Board would like to **thank the Boulder Ranger District** and all **returning volunteers** that were involved with the planning and execution of a fantastic training day. To our new volunteers, thank you for your attendance and participation at training day. We are excited for you to be a part of IPWA and are looking forward to a great summer patrol season!





Winter Patrol Season Wrap-Up

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, the 2024–25 winter season was a huge success. Here's what we accomplished together:

- **131** patrol hikes completed across the region
 - **80** from Brainard Lake Recreation Area (BRLA)
 - **25** from IPW South trailheads (Hessie, Rainbow Lakes, South Sourdough)
 - **8** from IPW North trailheads (Beaver Reservoir, Camp Dick, St. Vrain Mt.)
 - **18** from James Peak Wilderness (East Portal TH)
- **762** total miles patrolled
- **531** volunteer hours logged
- **4** minor medical assists
- **2,756** visitors and 383 dogs spotted on trails
- **389** meaningful visitor interactions
- **4** illegal fire rings removed
- **Common violations observed:**
 - E-bikes in Wilderness areas
 - Dogs off-leash
- **10** outreach events including REI Boulder & Denver, Dairy Center for the Arts, and interagency efforts at BRLA
- ☐ **Top patrollers this winter:**
 - Conrad L. – 19 patrols
 - Bryon L. – 11
 - Andy G. & Lincoln G. – 10 each
 - Cynthia G. – 9

Huge thanks to every volunteer who contributed their time, miles, and heart to protecting and stewarding our wild places this winter. Here's to a strong summer season ahead!



[Check Winter Trail Conditions Here](#)

Summer Patrol Hits the Ground Running!

Our Summer Patrollers have hit the ground running! We've had **over 35 patrols** with excellent distribution throughout JPW/IPW, and the impact of our work is already apparent. Our early season trail and campsite condition reporting has been better than ever, we've already **cleared 14 fire rings**, our **reporting on violations is leading to remediation**, we **started a new bridge survey program**, and we've helped numerous folks out on the trail.

The patrol reports are directly incorporated into the Summer Patrol Coordinator Team's weekly summary for our Forest Service partners, helping inform priorities and action. What we're doing really matters - **thank you!**

Mentorship Milestones: New Volunteers Hitting the Trail

34 new volunteers joined us for training on June 7th and have now entered the final phase of their onboarding: the mentorship program.

- On **June 21st**, **19 volunteers** participated in a **Group Mentor Patrol** out of **Brainard**, providing patrol coverage across much of the surrounding Wilderness while applying their new skills in the field.
- Looking ahead, **24 volunteers** are registered for the next **Group Mentor Patrol** on **June 28th** out of **Hessie**.

We're excited to report that **5 volunteers** have already completed their mentorship and are now approved to patrol independently. A big congratulations to **Todd Day** and his mentor, **Conrad Lattes**, for being the first to complete the program!



Sharpening Skills: Sawyer Team Grows!

Five volunteers took part in our recent sawyer training, including **three returning pros** recertifying and **two brand-new sawyers** joining the ranks.

Thanks for stepping up to help keep our trails clear and safe — one cut at a time!



Get CPR Certified – Free or Low-Cost Training Still Available

Boulder Rural Fire is offering free CPR training for Boulder Rural residents and \$25 training for non-residents. This AHA Friends and Family CPR course is a great opportunity for both current and new volunteers to gain a valuable certification.

Training Dates (All sessions run from 5:30–7:30 PM):

- Tuesday, **July 9** (Board meeting date)
- Tuesday, **September 10**

Location: Boulder Rural Fire Station, 6230 Lookout Rd, Boulder, CO 80301
Immediate CPR can double or triple the chances of survival after cardiac arrest. Take this simple step to be prepared for an emergency!
For more details, visit www.brfr.org, call (303) 530-9575, or scan the QR code to sign up.



Hey, Volunteers!

Ever wonder how IPWA is managed?
Have questions or comments for the IPWA Board?

We'd like to invite all current volunteers (as-of Summer 2024) to attend our monthly virtual IPWA Board of Directors meetings, typically held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from **6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** Your presence and participation is encouraged to help increase volunteer engagement and understanding of our organization!

Head over to the IPWA Volunteer Portal for additional information on how to participate.

Volunteer Portal

Last But Not Least!

A reminder that the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has a new website. Check out the new USFS Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests & Pawnee National Grassland site here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r02/arp>

Also don't forget to sign up for the **USFS email list** for regular updates!

**Sign
Up**

Wondering How You Can Support the IPWA?

Click the links below to learn more!

Donate!

Volunteer!

**Become a member today for just
\$10!**

Be sure to like and follow us on social media!



Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance | PO Box 17382 | Boulder, CO 80308 US

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