

WILDERNESS RISK MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE





2024 Conference Guide, Schedule & FAQ

Attend, Exhibit, or Sponsor the 31st Annual WRMC!

<u>Click here to register</u> - see below for pricing and discounts.

Schedule

Main Conference: Tuesday, October 15 - Thursday, October 17, 2024 Preconference: Monday October 14 - Tuesday, October 15.*

Agenda: <u>CLICK HERE</u> to view the full schedule and workshop descriptions on the WRMC Sched site!

Note: Some prefconference workshops require registration through the <u>WRMC</u> <u>Portal</u> and some accept walk-ins. The following you must register *externally*:

- Wilderness First Responder (WFR) Recertification: Register here
- Risk Management Training for Administrators: <u>Register here</u>

Location - Lodging Reservations

The conference will be held at the **Hilton Salt Lake City Center - 255 S W Temple St, Salt Lake City, UT 84101**. A limited number of discounted hotel rooms are available for attendees who book early. Ensure the cheapest rate possible by booking your reservation through the <u>WRMC Passkey Lodging Portal</u>. After all the WRMC discount hotel rooms have been reserved, lodging may be available at the conference hotel at a substantially higher rate.

Be an Exhibitor at the Sponsor Expo & Showcase!

Connect with over 500 outdoor program directors, risk managers, program administrators, and field staff training experts. Organizations attend the WRMC to be a part of this cutting-edge consortium of great minds and to improve their exposure in the industry (see below).





Attendee Registration & Prices

Regular registration price is \$750 - Registration is <u>now open!</u> Late Fee: All registrations made on or after 9/1/2024 will be charged a late fee of \$150. See special registration types and discounts <u>before</u> registering (below).

*What IS included in your conference attendee registration?

- access to main conference learning workshops (W/TH) and select preconference workshops
- mid-morning and mid-afternoon snack breaks as well as coffee from 7:30 8:30 am (W/TH)
- keynote presentation and dinner and structured networking events
- opening reception and expo showcase with light refreshments

Add-on Options (additional cost)

Items that are <u>not</u> included but can be added to your registration.

Preconference Workshops: Some preconference workshops are free, while others require pre registration and a fee. See the <u>full schedule with descriptions</u> for more information, or email <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u>.
Meal Plan: This is an add-on *OPTION* that includes an early morning (7:30 am) buffet breakfast and a buffet lunch mid-day. Individuals with highly specialized diets may not find this general, buffet-style meal plan to meet their needs. The meal plan is an additional \$100 that will only be available as a selection until 10/1/2024.
Lodging is not included.

Special Registration Types and Discounts:

<u>BEFORE</u> you register, please email <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u>, if you have any questions about if you might be eligible for a discount. Group discounts are not available for 2024.

Presenter or Volunteer Discounts/Coupons: Enter your unique discount code if you have been selected as a speaker or volunteer. You will have received this in an email after submitting your agreement form. **Student Discount:** Evidence of full-time student status is required, and you must receive a discount code/coupon **before** you register - email wrmc@nols.edu with clear documentation of your current full-time status during the time frame of spring 2024, summer 2024, or fall 2024 to receive a discount code. The student discount will be \$500 off the regular registration rate.

Legacy Partner Registration: Current, active employees of legacy partners Outward Bound, USA, or the Student Conservation Association, please contact your organization's Steering Committee member or <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u> prior to registering.

AMGA Partnership Discount: Current SPI + CWI Providers and AMGA Instructors please contact ted@amga.com or jaime@amga.com to receive your unique discount code. A discount will be 10% off the regular conference registration (Meal Plan and preconference workshops are not eligible for this discount). Exhibitor Table Expo Space & Staff: One Staff Person + Expo Table \$1000 (Exhibitor table registration includes attendance at workshops and keynote dinner/presentation for one staff person). Each additional staff person adds \$200. If you would like the additional staff member to also have access to conference workshops, snack breaks, and networking events please purchase a regular conference registration pass for the additional staff (as opposed to the \$200 add-on). The optional Meal Plan can be added to the Exhibitor table registration for \$100 per staff member.

Understand Conference Policies:

By registering for the WRMC, you agree to the Covid-19 Policy, the Media Release, and the Registration Cancellation Policy.

Media Release

By accepting this registration, I give NOLS permission to use any photos, video, or audio taken of me by WRMC media coordinators in promotional materials and press releases. WRMC attendee lists may be posted on the website for the purposes of risk management networking.

WRMC Cancellation Policy:

Conference Registration: For <u>all</u> types of registrations (attendee, volunteer, exhibitor table, speaker, etc.), there will be a \$200 cancellation fee for any registration canceled after enrollment and on or before 8/31/2024. There will be a \$500 cancellation fee if canceling on or after 9/1/2024. No exceptions will be made for any reason, including extenuating circumstances or emergencies. Conference registration is not transferable for future years, or other educational programs offered by WRMC, NOLS, or partner organizations. Travel insurance is recommended.

Pre-conference Workshop or Meal Plan: On or before 9/14/2024, 50% of the cost will be eligible for refund. On or after 9/15/2024, no refunds will be provided. If WRMC must cancel a pre-conference workshop, a full refund will be provided.

Please email <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u> for any conference refund or cancellation requests.

COVID-19 Policy

COVID-19 may be a risk, and attendees are strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated with boosters as applicable and up to date with their vaccines prior to the conference. The WRMC will follow any federal or local health regulations that may be required. If any COVID-19 protocols or requirements are necessary, they will be announced before the conference, and any protocols are subject to change at any time if conditions change. If you cannot attend the WRMC because of contracting COVID-19, the standard cancellation policies apply. Insurance is recommended.

Sponsor, Donor, & Exhibitor Information

Support the WRMC Community and continue the tradition of Facing Challenges Together. Sponsorship Packages, Exhibitor (Expo) Tables, and Scholarship Program Donations are excellent ways to increase your brand exposure and impact.



Scholarship Donors

Support the industry's commitment to risk management by donating to the scholarship program and allowing others the opportunity to attend the WRMC. Scholarship donations are accepted in any amount, scholarship donors will be recognized at the conference. This is an excellent opportunity to encourage new attendees and highlight your business, organization, or program. One full scholarship is a \$750 donation. <u>Donate HERE</u>.

Sponsorship Options

Increase your organization's conference exposure and get the most out of your WRMC experience! Sponsorship is the perfect opportunity if you are interested in supporting the WRMC while also gaining access to over 500 outdoor program directors, risk managers, and field staff training experts. All sponsorship options are subject to pending availability and include:

Trailblazer (In-kind donation) | Get your product in attendees' hands! Support the WRMC mission by donating items for prize giveaways and/or conference Swag.
Community Builder | Support emerging nonprofit professionals, outdoor guides, and educators! Provide a donation that directly funds the scholarship recipient's registration fees. \$5-\$5,000+
Catalyst | Sponsor a networking or social event. \$10,000
Visionary | Be a lead event sponsor! \$15,000

We also offer customizable packages catered to the specific needs of your organization! If you are interested in being a sponsor or would like more information, please email <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u>.

Product Exchange

Exhibitor Tables and Sponsorships may have an option for product exchange. Product exchanges must include products that are highly valued as prizes, such as tents, backpacks, outdoor gear, wilderness medicine equipment, supplies, etc. Products are exchanged at fair retail value. To request the product exchange option in lieu of a paid registration, please email <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u>. Include the registration type and provide an invoice of product exchange items equal to or greater than the cost. You will transport the items to the conference and deliver them at check in.

Exhibitor Tables (Expo)

Connect with the WRMC Community! Exhibit during the Expo Showcase hours and Exhibitor Reception. Exhibitor Table includes:

- One 6'–8' table, including linens, skirting, and two chairs
- Vendor sales abilities (excluding food and beverage)
- Morning and Afternoon Snack Breaks (meal plan not included)
- Exhibitor Table One Person = \$1,000

Exhibitor Table (add each additional staff) = \$200/person

This year the Exhibitor Table registration <u>also includes</u> access to the learning workshops. Exhibitors will be required to sign the Exhibitor Agreement** Statement at Registration.



Expo Showcase Hours

During breaks, the Expo will be open and featured! Expo Showcase hours will include approximately four (4) exhibitor showcase breaks of 30 minutes each on Wednesday and Thursday and 30-45 minutes before and after conference programming in the morning and evening. Exhibitor Tables must be staffed during the reception and all showcase hours.

Exhibitor Reception

Featuring a beer/wine reception with light appetizers and a cash bar, this energetic event draws conference attendees together to interact with companies and organizations serving the wilderness risk management industry. As an exhibitor, you will have prime exposure to leading outdoor program providers, guides, land managers, parks and forest service officials, public policymakers, outdoor degree educators, and students. This is an excellent opportunity to inform attendees about your products and services. Consider donating to the raffle to get your products in their hands!

Special Considerations

Electric, large format backdrops and extensive displays will have additional costs and are subject to availability. Exhibitors will sign the Exhibitor Agreement.

Conference Attendee Info & Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Reasonable Accommodation

If you would like to request a reasonable accommodation, please use the most comfortable method to share your request. Conference contact information: wrmc@nols.edu or 307-335-2222.

Stay Updated & Informed

Sign Up for email updates. Make <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u> a trusted email sender, and be careful not to "opt out" of emails. To make <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u> a safe sender - <u>Microsoft Instructions</u>, <u>Gmail Instructions</u>.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

The WRMC provides a forum to learn and share common practices in wilderness risk management and contributes to a culture of open dialogue among outdoor industry professionals. The WRMC is committed to the evolution of content and culture in a way that centers on diversity, equity, and inclusion principles. Commitment to these values helps ensure the best ideas continue to improve risk management practices for the industry.

Conference App

The WRMC uses Sched to help attendees, speakers, and volunteers plan their conference schedules and network. View the 2024 WRMC Sched site <u>here</u>. Create a profile, and make it public (if you would like)!

Attendee Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I get to the conference hotel from the Salt Lake City International Airport?

A: The SLC International Airport is just 7 miles from the conference venue. The <u>TRAX Light Rail Green Line</u> to Gallivan Station (just a 3 minute walk to the hotel) is a convenient and very affordable option for getting to/from

the airport! Complimentary shuttle service is not provided by the hotel. For more information, visit the SLC International <u>Ground Transportation</u> page.

Q: Where and when will the 2025 conference be held?

A: The 32st Annual WRMC will be held in the Northeast or East Coast of the US either in late September or mid-October 2025. Location selection is underway. Location and dates for 2025 will be available in fall 2024.

Q: In the past, we registered as a group and received a discount. How do we do that this year?

A: Registration cost has been lowered, and the pricing structure simplified. There will not be a group discount.

Q: In the past, I registered at the early bird discount. How do I get the discount this year?

A: Pricing has been streamlined. You do not need a discount code to receive the early price - instead simply register before **September 1, 2024** to receive the lowest rate! Late registrations will have a late fee.

Q: What food is included in the regular registration pass? What is the meal plan add-on?

A: Morning coffee and morning/afternoon snack breaks are included, as well as the Keynote Dinner and light refreshments during the Opening Reception. You can purchase the meal plan for an additional \$100. The meal plan includes a buffet breakfast and lunch on Wednesday and Thursday.

Q: I can only attend for one day. Is there a discount for a single-day pass?

A: There is not a single-day option.

Exhibitor Table Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: How much room will I have? Can I bring a large backdrop, display products, or have multiple pop-up signs?

A: The Exhibitor Tables are usually the standard size of 6- or 8-foot wide, 30" tall x 30" deep. The Exhibitor Table fee allows for a backdrop or multiple backdrops that are 5-6 feet wide in <u>total</u>. If your signs and displays are wider than six feet total, you may be asked to take down some portion of your display or pay an additional fee. Please email at least two weeks prior to the conference if your display is larger than 6' wide, 3' deep (including the table), or 7' tall to inquire what your additional charge will be.

Q: Can I bring my own electrical cord for electricity to plug in at no cost?

A: There are very limited electrical outlets in the Exhibitor Hall this year. Please email <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u> if you will be needing access to an electrical outlet.

Q: Do I have to set up at a specific time or attend an orientation?

A: Yes, watch your email for updates. There will be an exhibitor orientation and set up at a designated time. All exhibitor tables must be set up before 4pm on Tuesday, October 15th. Only exhibitors who have other conference support roles that completely overlap orientation and setup, such as volunteering or pre-conference workshop participation, will have an exception.

Q: Can I have packages sent to the hotel in advance, and is there a cost?

A: Yes, you can ship packages in advance. There may be a cost, depending on when and what you ship. Exhibitors are responsible for managing the packaging and shipping of any packages AFTER the conference. WRMC does not offer a pack-and-ship service. <u>Shipping prices from Hilton Salt Lake City Center</u>:

00 - 19 lbs ----- \$10.00 per item 20 - 59 lbs ----- \$15.00 per item 60 - 99 lbs ----- \$20.00 per item 100 lbs ------ \$27.00 per item

Due to limited storage space shipments should arrive no earlier than 3 days prior to event start date. Items shipped prior to 3 days or large items may be assessed with storage fee of 5.00/day/package, or \$50.00/day/pallet.

Shipping Labels for Incoming Packages: 255 S. West Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84101 *Please include the following:* Return Address Package Recipient's Name (i.e. hotel guest or event attendee) Event Name and Dates

Q: I'd like to do product sales, is that ok?

A: Yes you can sell products, no food or beverage sales are permitted though. Vendors are responsible for accurately collecting and reporting any necessary taxes and obtaining any required permits.

Q: Can I set it up at a different time?

A: Exhibitor orientation will be at the beginning of the Expo set up. Exhibitors should plan to attend the orientation and set up during the setup time.

Q: Can I pick my table location or what other Exhibitors I'm near?

A: Exhibitor Table locations are pre-assigned. You may not pick your location. However, please let us know if you want to be near another vendor or have other special requests. Send your request at least two weeks before the conference by emailing <u>wrmc@nols.edu</u>. We'll attempt to accommodate special requests whenever possible.

Q: What's in the Exhibitor Agreement? What if I sign up and decide I'm not comfortable with the Exhibitor Agreement?

A: Please carefully review the <u>2024 Exhibitor Agreement</u> before registering. All cancellations are subject to the cancellation fee.

Q: Can more than one organization or business "share" an exhibitor table?

A: It depends. Two <u>similar and related</u> nonprofit organizations can share an exhibitor table, particularly if they have shared programs and staff. Two businesses may be able to share an exhibitor table. Please email in advance with a short explanation of the request.

Q: Will I get an attendee list with names, organizations, email addresses, and phone numbers?

A: No, the conference no longer provides attendee contact information to vendors. Exhibitors can provide a prize giveaway and collect contact information from attendees who enter the drawing or who express interest and choose to share their information.