

WGMS FIELDTRIP GUIDELINES

for fieldtrip planners and leaders

The following guidelines should help make your fieldtrip a success:

- 1) **Make Sure** that it is okay to be on the property. Even though you may “get away with it” yourself, as a club, we will not do anything that is not perfectly legal.
 - a) If the property is privately owned, we need written permission to be there
 - b) If the property is claimed and we would be in violation of claim laws, we need written permission from the claimant to be there.
 - c) If the property is Arizona State Trust, we need permits to be there and we may not remove anything from the property.
 - d) Special restrictions may apply in Wilderness, Forests, Grasslands, etc. Find out if there are restrictions and find out what they are!

- 2) **Visit the site** before planning a fieldtrip to that location. Conditions in the desert change and a site that was easy to get to a few years ago may be impossible to reach today. Note and then explain the following to the club:
 - e) How difficult is it to reach the site?
 - f) How difficult is it to work the site?
 - g) How far is it to the site?
 - h) How long does it take to get there?
 - i) What will you find there?

- 3) **Decide the details** of the fieldtrip before presenting to the club.
 - a) Where will everyone meet?
 - b) What will be the departure time?
 - c) What tools will be needed?
 - d) Provide cellphone numbers to call if you get separated or injured, etc.
 - e) A map with instructions to reach the site would be helpful.

4) **Bump and Run**

To make sure that no one is left behind, review the Bump and Run procedure before leaving the meeting place. That is, notice from the beginning who is following you. You are responsible for that vehicle reaching the site. When you reach a decision point in the road, the person ahead of you (responsible for you reaching the site) will be waiting to make sure you see which way they go. As soon as you “Bump” into them, they are free to “Run” while you wait for the person behind you.

If you reach a decision point in the road and no one is there to tell you which way to go, stop and wait there.

It is good practice to make sure that the last person in the caravan knows the way to the site. That way, they can pick up anyone who gets separated from the group ahead of them.