

The Follow-Up Program

Program Design:

The Wilderness School Follow-Up Program is a unique companion to the Expedition Program. It consists largely of Short Courses intended to serve as refresher experiences for 20-Day and 5-Day participants.

Follow-Up Courses occur on weekends, weekdays, and school holidays in the fall through spring after students have completed their Expeditions. These activities serve as additional avenues for Wilderness School students to pursue achievement of their goals and the rewards of making good choices.

Continuing the supportive, strengths based emphasis of the Expedition Program, Follow-Up Courses also offer opportunities to reinforce other positive experiences of the 20-Day or 5-Day Expedition courses, such as feelings of success and belonging.



*The Wilderness School refers to its Follow-Up program as a means of "Keeping the Flame Alive."
Wilderness School Follow-Up Students on the Summit of Mt. Monadnock, NH*

Who To Contact:

All correspondence regarding the Follow-Up Program should be directed to the Wilderness School Program Coordinator.
[email: wildernessjourney@ct.gov ATTENTION Aaron Wiebe, or phone (860) 653-8059 or (800) 273-2293].

Follow-Up Courses and Activities may include: The Wilderness School Reunion, to which all alumni, agency staff, and family members are invited, is held each fall. Students will receive a notice of the Reunion for two years following their 20-Day or 5-Day Expeditions.



Student Follow-Up Courses:

Courses of one and two days in length are offered in the fall, winter, and spring for participants from the previous Summer Expeditions. Follow-Up courses include rock climbing, canoeing, backpacking, or caving opportunities. In the winter, students have the opportunity to experience new challenges such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, winter camping, and animal tracking.



Student/Agent/Family Courses:

Courses designed specifically to involve parents or guardians and other family members (13 years and above), and Referring Agents, are offered during the Follow-Up year. These usually involve hiking, group activities, snowshoeing or skiing, and animal tracking in the winter. These courses are intended to support relationships between students and significant adults or family members.



A Wilderness School 20-Day Expedition Alumni (and his graduation day photo)

Special Courses

These leadership programs that are longer (3-5 days) and located in more challenging mountain environments are offered each year. Students must display an appropriate level of motivation and responsibility to be considered, and must be recommended by program staff.

Students from previous years may attend under-enrolled Follow-Up courses. These students may require updated enrollment forms in order to attend Follow-Up beyond their year of enrollment.



Scholarships to other expedition programs:

Assistance in receiving scholarships to outside programs (i.e. Outward Bound, Cottonwood Gulch or National Outdoor Leadership School) can be provided as available to our leaders who wish to complete a bigger challenge. Scholarship recipients will be chosen and approved by Wilderness School program staff.