

Spring Mountain Survival Course [SMSC]

The **Spring Mountain Survival Course** (SMSC) is a world-class professionally taught Modern Wilderness Survival Course designed to give you the knowledge you need if stranded in the Mountains of Canada. This survival course gives you the skills and confidence you need for survival anywhere in the Canadian mountains.



Each course participant receives a MoraKniv, a Fire Lighting Kit with matches, tinder, a lighter and candles and a sharpening board.

The course starts in our base camp in the Columbia Mountains near Boswell, B.C., at about 600m elevation. Here you spend three days

and nights learning mountain survival skills. This “Temperate Rainforest” in spring is a wet, moisture-filled environment. This forest location provides an amazing training environment filled with cedars, fir, larch, birch, willow and pine. We will spend time exploring, collecting firewood, saplings and other useful plants in this forest.

In base camp we concentrate on teaching you fundamental survival skills. This will include safe tool use, fire lighting, cooking over a fire, shelter building and water purification. During this time, you will live in a rustic camp. Each participant will build and live in a series of single-person and double-person shelters with a shared fire.

On day four, the group moves either by vehicle or foot, depending on conditions to a higher elevation spot to spend the night. This move may be a hike or a vehicle ride and then a hike to get closer to sub-alpine terrain nearer the snowline. In this area we will quickly ensure you can survive and thrive if stranded. We will have a chance to see and understand northerly and southerly facing slopes, higher terrain changes and a walkabout in the “*Sub-alpine Forest*” of the Columbian Mountains.

Prerequisite: *Online or in-person Survival Core Seminar and read Canadian Wilderness Survival*

Location: Mountain Locations in the Interior Temperate Rainforest of BC.

Dates: May each year as per Web Site Calendar.

Course Time Frame: 5-days (08:00hrs Monday till 14:00hrs Friday).

Group Size: Group up to 9 maximum, course will be cancelled unless it has 3 participants.

Cost: \$665 per person plus \$33.25 GST.

Spring Mountain Survival Basic Skills List

Knifecraft

- Safely using a Survival Knife
- Basic Knife Handling
- Sharpening Board & Knife Sharpening
- Wood Splitting with a Survival Knife

Building & Using Survival Tools

- Build & Use a Baton
- Building & Use Wooden Tools
- Notches & Try Sticks
- Useful Knots
- Using a Bow Saw
- Safe Falling of Deadfall Trees
- Improvised Bindcrafting
- Making Cedar Cordage

Water Purification

- Safe Water Collecting
- Purifying Water

Fire Lighting

- Proper use of Matches and Lighters
- Using Artificial and Natural Tinder
- Finding Natural Fire Lighting Aids
- Extensive Fire Lighting with a Striker
- Standard and Survival Twig Bundles
- Getting a Fire Started
- No-Evergreen Fire Lighting

Fire Managements

- Keeping a Fire Burning
- Selection of Proper Fire Wood
- Overnight Fire Management Skills
- Coal Management
- Restarting Fires

Shelter Building

- Single & Double Super Shelters
- Various Lean-to Shelters
- Various Improvised Shelters
- Build a 4-Finger Bough Bed
- Build Wall & Roofs using Natural Materials
- Build various Survival Shelters

Signalling for Help

- Signal Fire Twig Bundles
- Building & Lighting a Signal Fire
- Building Ground-to-Air Signals
- Using a Signal Mirror
- Using a Whistle for Signalling
- Safe use of Flares
- Using Modern Signalling Devices in the wilderness correctly

Hiking & Camping Skills

- Packing for Hiking & Survival
- Survival Camp Locations in the Mountains
- Safe Spring and Summer Mountains Travel
- Safe Water Crossing
- Build a Walking Staff
- Setting up a Guyline
- Building Cooking Cranes
- Cooking over a Fire
- Cooking with a Stick Burner

Montane & Temperate Rain Forest

- Trees of the Montane Forest
- Trees of the Interior Temperate Rain Forest
- Useful plants of the Spring Forest
- Use and Identification of Aspect/Slope