

## Course Announcement – NCRC Level 1 and Level 2, Blacksburg, VA, Fall 2023

The Eastern Region of the National Cave Rescue Commission will be offering Level 1 and Level 2 classes this fall in modular format, hosted by the Blacksburg Volunteer Rescue Squad, 1300 Progress Street Northwest, Blacksburg, Virginia. Official course descriptions are here - <https://ncrc.info/Courses>.

Classes will meet in person over three weekends from 7 p.m. Friday through 7 p.m. Sunday. The dates are September 15-17, September 29-October 1, and October 13-15.

In addition, some lecture content for each level will be delivered remotely using Google Classroom. Dates for the remote live online lectures are Sept 6 (Wednesday), September 12 (Tuesday), September 20 (Wednesday), September 26 (Tuesday), October 4 (Wednesday), and October 10 (Tuesday). The live online lectures will begin at 7 p.m. on these dates, will last from 90 to 120 minutes, and will be recorded so that students not able to attend the live online lectures may view them before the next in person weekend in Blacksburg. Attendance at the live, online lectures is strongly encouraged, and for those unable to attend viewing of the recordings is mandatory for participation in subsequent, in person weekends.

Equipment and entrance skill requirements for each level are described here for Level 1 - <https://ncrc.info/Resources/Students/Level%201/StudentPreparationGuide>, and here for Level 2 - <https://ncrc.info/Resources/Students/Level%202%20and%20TOFE/StudentPreparationGuide>. Please note that Level 1 is a pre-requisite for Level 2. There are no pre-requisites for Level 1 except for passing the entrance skill tests. Students are encouraged to arrange with a local NCRC instructor to complete entrance skill check-offs prior to the first weekend meeting (Sept 15-17).

Primitive camping will be available locally free of charge, and for those who prefer not to camp the instructor staff will try to pair attendees in need of lodging with local caver hosts.

The course fee is \$250. In addition, each student must have the Manual of U. S. Cave Rescue Techniques, available when you register for an additional \$55. The registration cost includes no frills meal during each in person weekend: Dinner Friday, breakfast-lunch-dinner Saturday, and breakfast-lunch on Sunday.

Please notify lead instructor Wil Orndorff ([Wil.Orndorff@blacksburgrescue.org](mailto:Wil.Orndorff@blacksburgrescue.org)) and/or registrar Janet Smith of any dietary limitations when you register.

Registration opens on August 8. Please see the Eastern Region NCRC website for details on how and when to register - <https://ncrc-er.caves.org/>.