

*12-13 IDPR AVALANCHE AWARENESS CLASSES SCHEDULE*

**SOUTH REGION:** Rich Gummersall - (208) 514-2414 or Todd Wernex - (208) 514-2413

<i>DATE:</i>	<i>LOCATION:</i>
Nov 07	Boise Classroom - 7pm at Carl's Cycle Sales
Nov 14	Boise Classroom - 7pm at Snake River Yamaha
Nov 28	Boise Classroom - 7pm at Moto Tech
Dec 05	Caldwell Classroom - 7pm at Grizzly Sports
Dec 12	Mt. Home Classroom - 7pm at the Elmore County Search and Rescue building
Dec 19	Twin Falls Classroom - 7pm at Action Cycles and Sleds
Jan 11	Fairfield Classroom - 7pm at the American Legion Hall
Jan 12	Fairfield Field - 8am at the Chimney Creek parking lot
Jan 25	Cascade Classroom - 7pm at the Valley County Sheriffs Recreation Patrol Building
Jan 26	Cascade Field - 8am at the Anderson Creek parking lot
Feb 02	Boise\Idaho City Field - 9am at the Woop em up parking lot
Feb 08	Twin Falls Classroom - 7pm at Action Cycles and Sleds
Feb 09	Twin Falls Field - 8am at the Diamond Field Jacks parking lot

**EAST REGION:** Blair Geiger - (208) 525-7121 or Michael Robinson (208) 525-7121

<i>DATE:</i>	<i>LOCATION:</i>
Nov 07	Idaho Falls Classroom - 7pm at the IDPR Region Office
Nov 09	Chubbuck\Pocatello Classroom - 7pm at Butterfield Polaris
Nov 14	Idaho Falls Classroom - 7pm at the IDPR Region Office
Dec 07	Idaho Falls Classroom - 7pm at the IDPR Region Office
Dec 14	Idaho Falls Classroom - 7pm at the IDPR Region Office
Jan 04	Idaho Falls Classroom - 7pm at the IDPR Region Office
Jan 11	Idaho Falls Classroom - 7pm at the IDPR Region Office
Jan 12	Idaho Falls Field - 8am at the Big Holes (Substation parking lot)
Feb 08	Montpelier Classroom - 7pm at the Montpelier Visitor Center
Feb 09	Montpelier Field - 8am at the Copenhagen Basin parking lot
Feb 22	Stanley Classroom - 7pm at the City office building
Feb 23	Stanley Field - 8am at the Basin Butte (Mtn Village parking lot)
Mar 01	Island Park Classroom - 7pm at Ponds Lodge
Mar 02	Island Park Field - 8am at the Big Springs parking lot



**NORTH REGION:** Scott Hildesheim - (208) 215-9550 or (208) 769-1511

<i>DATE:</i>	<i>LOCATION:</i>
Nov 14	Coeur d'Alene Classroom – 6:30pm at Specialty Recreation and Marine
Nov 28	Sandpoint Classroom - 7pm at the USFS building
Dec 05	Spokane Classroom – 6:30pm at Allsport Polaris Honda
Dec 12	Hells Gate Classroom - 7pm at the Hells Gate State Park Visitors Center
Jan 11	Coeur d'Alene Classroom - 7pm at the IDPR Region Office
Jan 12	Coeur d'Alene Field - 8am at the 4th of July parking lot
Jan 25	Grangville Classroom - 7pm at the Search and Rescue Building
Jan 26	Grangville Field - 8am at the Fish Creek Parking Lot
Feb 22	Pinehurst Classroom - 7pm at Valley Powersports
Feb 23	Pinehurst Field - 8am at the Lookout Pass Parking Area



\*\*Be sure to reserve your seat in a class by calling well in advance or by visiting [www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov](http://www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov) and utilizing the online course registration on the Snowmobiling page...\*\*

*Field locations are subject to change due to snow conditions*

*12-13 IDPR SNOWMOBILE OPERATORS CLASSES SCHEDULE*

<i>REGION:</i>	<i>DATE:</i>	<i>LOCATION:</i>
East	Jan 25	Idaho Falls Classroom - 7pm at the IDPR Region Office
	Jan 26	Idaho Falls Field - 8am at the Bone road parking lot
North	Feb 09	Elk River - 8am at the community center
South	Feb 22	Fairfield Classroom - 7pm at the American Legion Hall
	Feb 23	Fairfield Field - 8am at the Chimney Creek parking lot

## EIGHT STEPS TO REDUCING YOUR AVALANCHE RISK

1. **Get smart!** The smart first step is to learn from the avalanche experts. This will take a commitment of time and effort on your part. Divide the task into three parts. First, take an avalanche course. Second, check out the videos on avalanche safety. Third, do some reading and expand on what you have learned.

### 2. Utilize your resources.

- [WWW.AVALANCHE.ORG](http://WWW.AVALANCHE.ORG)
- Sawtooth Avalanche Center  
(208) 622-8027
- Idaho Panhandle Avalanche Center  
(208) 765-7323
- Payette Avalanche Center  
(208) 634-0409

3. **Identify avalanche terrain.** Avalanches run repeatedly year after year in the same areas/slopes called avalanche paths. Avalanches most often start on slopes of 30-45 degrees but sometimes start on slopes as shallow as 25 degrees and as steep as 50 degrees. Knowing the slope angle is “rule number one” in recognizing avalanche terrain, for once slope angles reach 30 degrees, you are in potential avalanche terrain regardless of all other factors.

4. **Read nature’s signs.** Sometimes the snow shows clear and present danger signs of avalanche. Some signs are a fresh avalanche, snow collapsing beneath you or creating noticeable cracks. Some weather signs that the hazard could be worsening fast are heavy snowfall -- more than one inch per hour -- or strong winds creating blowing snow and snow plumes off the ridges.

5. **Test the snow.** Look for test slopes where you can dig snowpits and perform stress tests. A test slope is a small, steep slope, preferably 30 degrees

or steeper, where you will not be in danger of causing an avalanche, but is close to a larger slope that you are concerned about. You can learn all about snowpits while attending Idaho Parks and Recreation’s Avalanche Awareness course.

6. **Travel smart.** There are several rules of safe backcountry travel that will help to minimize your avalanche risk. **One at a time.** Only one person at a time should go onto the slope. **Avoid the center.** The greatest danger on any steep slope comes when you are in the middle of it. **Stay on shallow slopes.** You can always travel on avalanche-free slopes up to 25 degrees. **Never ride alone.**

7. **Take your pulse.** In other words, check your attitude. It can get you in trouble. Are you so goal-oriented to climb this peak or highmark that slope that you are willing to take unwarranted risk? Do not overlook clear and present danger signs! Do not fall into peer pressure! Are you letting haste or fatigue get you in trouble? To prevent accidents from happening, you must control the human factor in your decision-making. Know your limitations.

8. **Be ready for rescue.** There are three parts to the rescue equation that will reduce your risk: what equipment to carry, what to do if you are caught, and what to do if a friend is caught.

**Rescue gear.** A snow shovel, probe and a beacon are the items that everyone who goes into the backcountry should not be without.

**Do not abandon the search or send searchers out for additional help: You are the buried victim’s best chance for survival.**

Since avalanches are the number one cause of snowmobile fatalities in the west, the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation is presenting a **free** Snowmobile based Avalanche Awareness course near you. These practical and popular classes familiarize the winter backcountry enthusiast with hazard recognition and techniques for safe travel in avalanche terrain.

What to expect:

The program is divided into a classroom and field portion. Classroom sessions are a prerequisite to attend a field exercise. The program is 12 hours of training between the classroom and field portion.

Goals of this program:

Understand basic trip planning - understand safe travel techniques - be able to distinguish between safe and potentially hazardous terrain - understand the basics of snow stability analysis - be able to perform basic risk analysis and employ risk mitigation measures - know how to perform individual and small group self-rescue.

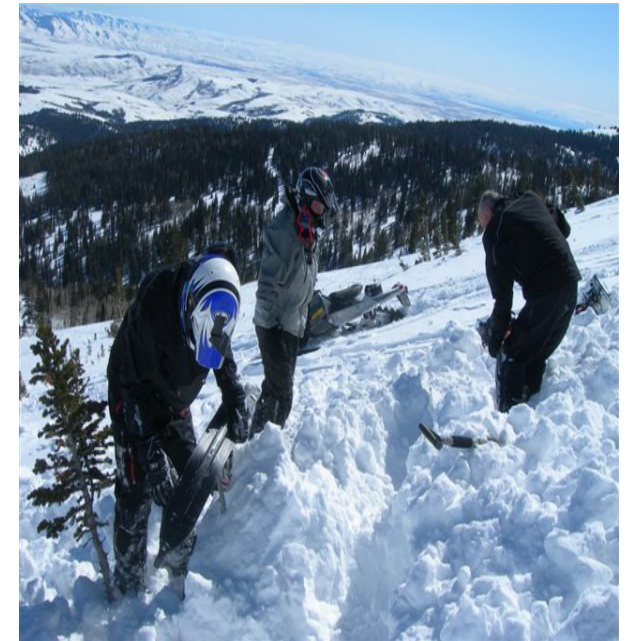
[WWW.SNOWIASA.ORG](http://WWW.SNOWIASA.ORG)



Most avalanche accidents can be avoided with simple education and preparation. Visit the above web address to learn more about avalanches, how to make informed decisions, and how to travel more safely when snowmobiling in avalanche terrain.

Cover photo courtesy of Idaho State Snowmobile Association.

# AVALANCHE AWARENESS



## PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

2012 - 2013



[www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov](http://www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov)