

DENVER GROUP - WHISTLE PROTOCOL

August 18, 2015

A whistle is one of the Ten Essentials CMC recommends its members and guests carry at all times while hiking, backpacking, skiing, snow shoeing, climbing. A whistle is a tool used to communicate to others in situations where human shouts cannot be heard. Although three blasts on a whistle are recognized as HELP, there is no standardized response to let the initiator know he/she has been heard and response is on the way.

The Denver Safety & Leadership Committee (DS&L) has developed a Whistle Protocol designed to be simple and effective for our leaders and members to initiate and respond in specific situations where the human voice may not be heard.

This matrix can be cut out and taped onto a water bottle with transparent packing tape which will somewhat protect the paper from moisture. In order to communicate in an emergency the whistle is to be worn on the outside of a backpack or day pack.

RECOMMENDED WHISTLE PROTOCOL		
<i>Neither the initiator or responder should cease whistle communication until the objective/the action requested is accomplished.</i>		
Situation/Objective	INITIATOR	RESPONSE
Contact	1 Blast (Where are you?)	1 Blast (I am here.)
Regroup	2 Blasts (Come here.)	1 Blast (Heard you. Coming.)
Emergency	3 Blasts (Help)	1 Blast (Heard you. Coming.)
Recommended by DS&L Committee May 2015		