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This photo was taken on or June EMT-B course.

Check out the new Landmark Learning blog at <http://landmarklearning.org/blog/>

July /August Open Enrollment Courses at the Landmark Base:

WMI of NOLS Wilderness First Responder - Wait List
July 5 - July 13

Wilderness Upgrade for Medical Professionals
August 4 - 9

Leave No Trace Master Educator Course
August 11 - 15

Relief Medic - Wait List
August 16 - 28

Stay tuned to our web calendar as we continue to add more course for the upcoming months!

From the Directors Desk:

Do you have a Lifeguard on your wilderness staff? Are they prepared to perform their Lifeguard duties in an environment different from the pool where they were trained? Do you practice and document swim-skill assessments for your wilderness program? Do your Lifeguards provide "constant and dedicated surveillance?" Are Personal Floatation Devices (PFD's) fail-proof for aquatic activities? If any of these questions raise an eyebrow for you, then you should consider attending a Wilderness Lifeguard course.



Landmark Learning has been providing Wilderness Lifeguarding programs throughout the US since 2001. We are pleased to be a resource with this smart, programmatic spin on Lifeguarding and we enjoy the "aha's" that we receive from experienced aquatic rescuers attending our trainings. Because water covers the earth and prevention is the best rescue when it comes to aquatic activity, play it smart and get trained! Contact our office for more

information, course dates, and details. A whole-hearted thank you for all of the organizations, specialists and students that have helped shape the Starfish Aquatics Institutes' Wilderness Lifeguard program!

Justin S. Padgett

Justin S. Padgett, M.S., Paramedic, WEMT
Executive Director



Cave Incident Report -

We recently received a copy of this incident report from Pettijohns Cave. It is an interesting read and is great example of why any person entering into a cave environment should have some kind a formal training regarding cave travel safety, equipment selection, ecology, and geology. For more information on our Cave Trip Leader Schools visit our website at <http://www.landmarklearning.org/courses-custom.php>.

Pettijohns Incident Friday, June 13, 2008

The scenario: Colton Holt, who had been to Pettijohns several times, was giving his brother a tour of the cave. They descended the Slippery Slope, explored the creek for a little way and then turned back. Jeffrey could not climb back up the Slippery Slope. At one point Colton even left the cave to bring back more food and water for his brother. However even after eating and rehydrating, Jeffrey could not make it up the slope, and at this point during his try fell about 6 feet bruising his back and arm and setting off back spasms. So Colton came out again and called for rescue.

Follow this link to read the rest of the report. [Pettijohns Cave Incident - 2008](#).

Instructor Highlight: Chris Sacco

What are your "special" skills - your specific skill set that you contribute to Landmark?

I recently returned to the U.S. from Ecuador, where I worked for nearly eight years. During this time I led numerous groups and medical brigades to remote environments, managed multiple emergency, rehabilitation, and health projects throughout Ecuador, and created and managed a volunteer program in the Ecuadorian Amazon.

Additionally, in my capacity as project manager and as a volunteer coordinator and trip leader, I regularly facilitated participatory learning exercises. The most relevant exercises (to my work with Landmark) I led were those aimed at training impoverished communities to prepare for disaster and to respond properly during emergencies.



What is your actual day/night job?

Grants Coordinator for World Neighbors, which is an international development organization dedicated to ending poverty, hunger and disease in remote and marginalized communities in ecologically fragile areas of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

What are your favorite outdoor activities?

Hiking and alpine climbing

Where are your favorite outdoor locations to visit?

Ecuador's *Avenue of the Volcanoes* and the Peruvian highlands.

Why do you work for Landmark?

I work for Landmark because I enjoy spending time with its high-quality, caring staff and because I love the subject matter it teaches.

Any career or personal highlights you'd like to share?

I managed a three-month disaster preparedness project for 16 vulnerable communities located on the Ecuadorian coast in an effort to mitigate the consequences of severe weather resulting from an expected El Niño phenomenon. Simultaneously I monitored the construction of 41 shelters which were built to house poor families displaced by the eruption of Tungurahua Volcano. Immediately before these two projects, I managed a six-month emergency response and rehabilitation project that benefited 1,275 families who lost their farms during severe coastal flooding.

Regardless of the difficulties I may face, I need only think back to the people I worked with while managing the above named projects. Remembering the abject poverty - especially the conditions people were forced to live in after natural disasters - immediately puts life in perspective and makes me appreciate the incredible opportunities I have had.

Any words of wisdom you live by or would like to share?

Don't sweat the small stuff, and it's all small stuff except day one and the day it ends.



Course Highlight: Leave No Trace Master Educator Course

As an affiliate of the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, Landmark Learning is one of five organizations in the US with the authorization to train outdoor professionals to be Leave No Trace Master Educators. The Landmark Learning course schedule is five days in length and consists of one intensive classroom day, three days immersed in the field, and one community outreach day. Participants will have the opportunity to choose one of the Leave No Trace principles to teach to the other participants, therefore practicing their teaching technique and getting feedback from the group. The time in the field allows us to hone our skills and prepare for interface with the community on the final day of the course.

This is a perfect course for anyone who spends time leading outdoor trips. Guides and trip leaders are models to those they are working with. It is important for us all to practice Leave No Trace to help other understand that we all have a part in protecting the places where we immerse ourselves.

Upcoming Master Educator Courses:

August 11 - 15 - Landmark Base Course - Backpacking

September 29 - October 3 - Ecuador - Backpacking

October 6 - 10 - Charleston, SC - Sea Kayaking

**2008 Training Season is Filling Fast
Landmark Calendar**

Check out our [web calendar](#) for current courses - bookmark the page as the calendar is constantly changing as courses fill. Visit this page to download registration packets for courses running from our base in Cullowhee, NC, or for contact information for our sponsored courses.

Highlights For This Summer Include:

[WMI of NOLS](#) Wilderness First Aid, Wilderness Advanced First Aid, Wilderness First Responder and WFR Recertification, and Wilderness EMT in a "3+1" Format (see below). Plan ahead and prepare for the busiest training time of the year. Please also visit www.nols.edu/wmi for a look at nationwide course availability.

[WFR](#): July 5 - 13, and December 13 -21

[WFR -Recertification](#): December 5-7

[WEMT Intensive](#): September 29 - October 25

[EMT-Basic](#): September 29 - October 18

[SAI Wilderness Lifeguard Instructor Course](#): September 2 - 5

[Leave No Trace Master Educator](#): August 11 -15

[ACA Advanced Swiftwater Rescue](#): September 13 -14

[Relief Medic](#): November 17 - 20

[Relief Medic - Ecuador](#): August 16 - 28

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