

We're a little less than a month out from the Whistle Pig  
Aug 13, 2024

We're in the third year of the Whistle Pig and we hope it's a little more awesome every time. The race will start at 8am and will wrap up at 4pm.

As race weekend approaches, we will be sending out racer updates, each with very important information for your race planning. Please check in with your teammates and make sure they are all getting these emails and that they aren't ending up in junk mail folders. Much of this information can be found on our website, specifically on our Race Details page and our Gear List page, both of which we update periodically so please check them often.

Below are some important details, as well as some great deals for you racers from our sponsors.

### **FIRST TIME ADVENTURE RACING?**

USARA (United States Adventure Race Association) has some great [resources](#) for new AR racers. Feel free to email us as well.

### **REGISTRATION**

*Please check in with your teammates and make sure everyone has signed up.*

If your teammates haven't registered, make sure they do so by Sept 2 when registration closes.

The last day to register is Sept 2 (but it's very helpful if you get it done before that, if possible). It's also super helpful if we know of any team changes or cancellations as early as possible. So, if you have any changes or even if you just anticipate a change, we'd love it if you could please let us know ASAP. :)

This year, you will also need a [Montana Conservation license](#). If you already have a Montana fishing or hunting license then you are covered.

### **GEAR**

We try to keep our required gear list to the minimum. The required gear is required, mostly by the forest service and/or our insurance (and common sense). The other stuff is up to you - you can decide what you need to bring on a 8 hour adventure race so that you don't end up needing to call SAR or even worse, your friends, to bail you out. And don't worry if you do find yourself needing to call SAR, we have them on standby and on speed dial so they can be here in a jiffy. Check the [webpage](#) for the most up to date list.

Please note that a writing implement (we suggest a pencil) and a UTM grid reader are on your mandatory gear list, one per team. You will need these when you check in, not

out on the course. Most of your checkpoints will already be marked on your map, but you may need to plot some. [Here's a short video showing you how.](#) We will have the UTM grid readers for you at check in.

### **I'M A LITTLE RUSTY AT NAVIGATING**

Honestly, if you can read a map, you will probably be ok for most of the checkpoints. Often you are able to use geographic features to make your way around. It is certainly great to know how to navigate with a map and compass, however. Never fear! There will be a short course on navigation and plotting of checkpoints the night of registration so don't sweat the orienteering portion of the race. Or you can have a look at this [article](#) and/or this [article](#) or search the internet for instruction. Save your sweat for the biking! Stay tuned for more details on our in person session.

### **BIKING**

We encourage a mountain bike for this race. It is also possible with a cross bike - there is some single track - so gauge your comfort level. Road bikes won't cut it. E-bikes aren't allowed.

### **SPECIAL MYSTERY CHECKPOINTS**

We do have some fun mystery activities that you will learn more about when you get your maps. These will be optional, but should be doable for everyone and any special gear will be provided.

### **BEAR SPRAY**

The race is 100% in bear country which is why bear spray is a required item on the gear list. Make sure you know how to use it. Check out this [video](#) for a refresher.

### **SUPPORT**

You'll need to be pretty self sufficient during this race and we ask that you pack everything in and out. We'll have some snacks and water and a port-a-potty at the race start/finish. We will not have cups - you will need your own water carrying device (water bottle, hydration pack, etc).

Friends and family can cheer you on from the start/finish and transition areas but they won't be able to help you out. You will be able to stash gear & supplies at the start/finish but you need to carry the required items with you at all times.

We will also have a meal at the end of the race as well as our favorite Whistle Pickles. If your friends and family who aren't racing would like a meal, let us know when you sign up.

### **CHECK IN**

Check in will be the night of Sept 6 from 4-8pm at Natali's Front Bar Patio 117 S Broadway. Maps will be given out at that time. If you need to check in the morning of the race, you can meet us at the start area at 0700.

## AWARDS

We will be doing awards and a post race drawing at the start/finish area right after the race is over (plus a little time for us to tally results).

## SUMMERFEST

After the race is over and awards have been handed out, we are all going to head down to Red Lodge for [Summerfest](#) at the Roosevelt Center. The music starts at 2pm featuring The Hellroaring, Band of Drifters and local favorites, Lee and Charlie.

## LODGING, EATING, ETC.

Red Lodge has some great hotels and rental homes. The [Red Lodge Chamber of Commerce](#) can help you out.

## CAMPING

There is plenty of camping in the Red Lodge area both private campgrounds and National Forest locations. Some areas in the Beartooth Ranger District require hard sided campers so check their [website](#) for the most up to date information.

## GEAR

**Sylvan Peak** - Need some last minute gear for the race? For all of your outdoor needs, stop by Sylvan Peak. After over 30 years in business, they know the ins and outs of providing quality outdoor gear and clothing. They are right on Broadway and open from 7am-7pm And always have friendly, knowledgeable staff.

## Proceeds

This year, proceeds will go to supporting Red Lodge Fire Rescue Foundation, Southern Montana Climbers Coalition and the Red Lodge High School Outdoor Club.

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE SERIES

The Whistle Pig is part of the Rocky Mountain Adventure Series, which is an awesome collection of adventure races in the region. Race three or more RMAS races and your team could be eligible for a great cash prize!

For more info and to view the race calendar, [click here](#).

Please keep an eye on your inbox and on the website for future updates! In the meantime, feel free to reach out with questions anytime.