



Dear Class of 2013,

Welcome to Dartmouth! You have four years of college ahead of you: snowball fights, late nights, sunny afternoons on the Green, new friends, and great adventures. What's the best way to start off your next four years? Go on a trip with the Dartmouth Outing Club!

DOC trips are a great introduction to the New Hampshire woods, your fellow classmates, and Dartmouth tradition. Whatever level of intensity you desire, we have the perfect trip for you. Whether you have never slept outside, you can hike 20 miles, or you just love organic farming - we can give you a wonderful start to orientation. We promise that when you return from your Trip, you will have new friends, great memories, and some rock-solid Dartmouth spirit of your own. This will be one of your fondest memories of your freshman year. You'll never forget it, we promise!

As soon as you show up in Hanover for your trip, you will understand why this is such an exciting experience. Robinson Hall, the home of the Dartmouth Outing Club, exudes the high energy of Trips and the spirit of the College. You'll see what we mean when you get here! After a night in Hanover and two in the woods, you will arrive at the Moosilauke Ravine Lodge for a night of fabulous food and Dartmouth tradition. During your trip, you can learn the alma mater, discover the art of making 'no-bake cheesecake,' and plunge into cold New Hampshire rivers. Even if you never get outside with us again, Trips are certainly a highlight of all Dartmouth students' college years.

On your trip, you will experience the granite-filled wilderness that so many of us love dearly. When you return, we hope you'll decide to venture into the outdoors many more times during your college career with the Outing Club! In the one hundred years since the founding of the Dartmouth Outing Club, the club has constantly expanded its outdoor activity. Today, we have a number of member clubs and facilities—the Dartmouth Skiway, the Organic Farm, a cross-country ski area, a dozen cabins, and the Moosilauke Ravine Lodge—all of which are located within an hour of campus. Do you want to go hiking, build trails, or be on the Woodsmen's Team? Check out Cabin and Trail. Feel a little more aquatic? The Ledyard Canoe Club has a dock on the Connecticut River (which borders the campus!) and leads canoeing and kayaking trips of all levels. Or if you are vertically inclined, the Dartmouth Mountaineering Club does rock and ice climbing at local cliffs. Bait and Bullet runs hunting and fishing trips. For a more eco-friendly approach to the environment, join the Environmental Studies Division or the Organic Farm, which runs frequent farming trips and potlucks at the Dartmouth Farm just a few miles north of campus. We have a cycling club where you can find other people to go on bike rides and train for races. Want to be a ski patroller and learn wilderness first aid? Join the Ski Patrol and learn medical and teamwork skills. All of the clubs have beginner trips so people with no experience can get started. Just stop by Robinson Hall to get the clubs' meeting times, or email them to get on their informational email lists ('blitz lists' as you'll soon learn).

Finally, we'd like to leave you with the words of Ernest Hopkins, President of Dartmouth College from 1916-1945:

"I would insist that the man who spends four years in our North Country and does not learn to hear the melody of rustling leaves or does not learn to love the wash of racing brooks over their rocky beds in the spring, who has never experienced the repose to be found on lakes and rivers, who has not stood enthralled on the top of Moosilauke on a moonlit night or has not become a worshipper of color as he has seen the sunset from one of Hanover's hills, who has not thrilled at the whiteness of the snow-clad countryside in winter or at the flaming forest colors of the fall – I would insist that this man has not reached out for some of the most worthwhile educational values accessible to him at Dartmouth."

If you have any questions, or just want to talk, don't hesitate to blitz us at doc.pres@dartmouth.edu or our personal accounts below, or check out the DOC's web page, www.dartmouth.edu/~doc. We hope you choose to go on a DOC Trip and become involved with the Outing Club in some way, and we look forward to meeting all of you in the fall!

Yours in the out-of-doors,

Rebecca Vogel '11 (rebecca.vogel@dartmouth.edu)
Tom Flynn '11 (tom.flynn@dartmouth.edu)

Dartmouth Outing Club Presidents