

(Excerpted from How to Be a Good Hiker, by Cynthia Tollo Falls)

1. A good hiker is prepared.
They wear the right clothing and gears for the weather, have enough water and food and physically able to complete the hike.
2. A good hiker does not call late in the evening or late registration.
They should call early once decide to join the hike. Be considerate that leader also need time to spend with his family, don't call after 10pm.
3. A good hiker shows up and arrives on time.
Punctually in the morning is so important that it will maintain all teammates in good mood for the whole day. Late arrival will turn everything up side down. There is nothing worse than no show which is wasting of others time.
4. A good hiker cares about other one's car.
When taking carpool, they try to keep the driver's car clean: they wipe off muddy boots before getting in and don't eat in the car or leave trash behind.
5. A good hiker knows how to walk.
There are different techniques to tackle loose stones, sandy slope, stream, trunk bridge, snowy trail, icy trail, bare rock and steep slope. A good hiker should also know how to follow trailmarks.
6. A good hiker stays with the group.
Hikers going too fast put pressure on the rest of the group, causing competition and pressure which can ruin other's enjoyment. Hikers going too slow for personal enjoyment cause the group to make extended stops to wait for catch up. The worst is the team will be fragmented and endanger the single ones.
7. A good hiker lets the leader know if someone appears to be having trouble.
Leaders of big group cannot see everyone at all times and extra eyes are needed to spot trouble early. A good hiker will also help out the hiker in need who is next to him.
8. A good hiker does not demand the leader to change the plan for him.
If hikers had other commitment after the hike, they should have a map and know how to go back by themselves. A good hiker should know the hiking plan when registration and respect the leader's effort to execute the plan.
9. A good hiker helps make the hike fun.
They socialize with the group; turn off the cell phone or iPod; know something about fauna or history that interests others; some bring homemade cookies. With everyone's participations, good hikers together will make the hike with the group a special event.