

Outreach

Outreach directors, with help from BOC trip leaders, organize outings with people outside the Bates community who might not otherwise get the opportunity to experience the outdoors. The primary focus is on interaction with youth in the Lewiston/Auburn area.

AESOP

The Annual Entering Student Outdoor Program consists of multi-day trips specifically for new students. These trips offer a great opportunity to meet peers and begin adjusting to college life before the onset of classes. We offer over 30 student-run trips to various destinations throughout New England the week before First-Year Orientation begins. The trips, geared for all ability levels, include backpacking, hiking, trail maintenance on the Appalachian Trail, mountain biking, kayaking, rock climbing, and canoeing. Day trips are also offered on the first weekend of the semester for students who do not participate in multi-day AESOP trip. These trips are an excellent way to acquaint yourself with all aspects of Bates life and to meet people in an informal and fun setting.

Clambake

A tradition in the BOC since 1920, two clambakes are held each year at local beaches such as Popham Beach or Reid State Park. A traditional Maine clambake includes lobster, clams, corn-on-the-cob, hot dogs and hamburgers, watermelon, desserts, drinks, and a great day at the beach. One is run in September, and the other during Short Term, so you have two chances to enjoy this great event.

Winter Carnival

The highlight of the winter, this is a week long event in January sponsored jointly by the BOC and Chase Hall Committee. The BOC organizes the Winter Olympics, snow sculpture contest, skating party and bonfire, and traying on Mt. David. Many of these traditions have been around for over half a century so join in.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Bates Outing Club by mail at Chase Hall Box 59, or by phone at the E-Room (207) 795-7493. Better yet, come to our meetings on Wednesday nights at 6:30 in the BOC meeting room in Alumni Gymnasium. Hope to see you there!

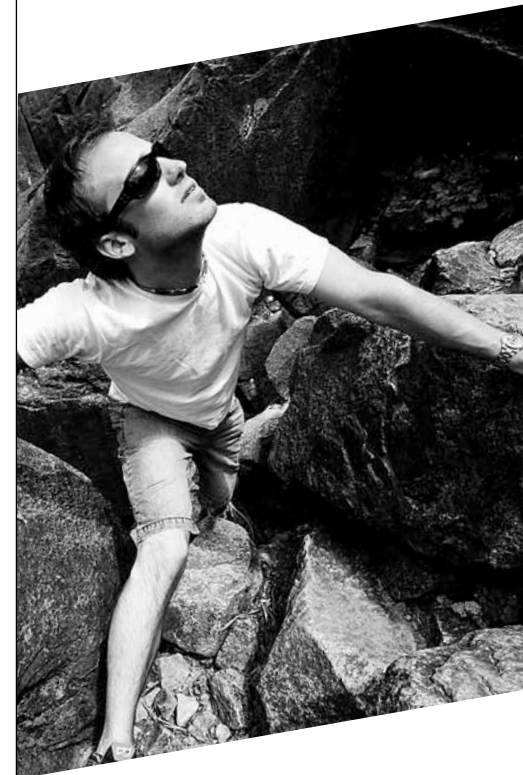
The Legend

The BOC's annual magazine is sent to alums and distributed throughout the school. All articles are written by students and alums. The editorial staff is made up of current students and directed by two BOC members.

Bates values a diverse college community. Moreover, Bates does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, age, or disability, in the recruitment and admission of its students, in the administration of its educational policies and programs, or in the recruitment and employment of its faculty and staff.

B A T E S C O L L E G E

Outing Club



Bates Outing Club

All members of the Bates community are automatically members of the Bates Outing Club (BOC). We are the second oldest, and one of the largest and most active outing clubs in the country. The BOC sponsors student-run trips throughout the year including backpacking, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, skiing, snowshoeing, climbing, mountain biking, and mountaineering. Everyone is welcome on the trips, and generally no experience is required. Our trips are a great way to meet people, and also an opportunity to explore some of the most beautiful places in New England.

Becoming a voting Council member (by simply attending three consecutive meetings) allows you to help organize and lead trips for the club. Open meetings are held every Wednesday night at 6:30 in the Outing Club room in Alumni Gymnasium. Everyone is welcome, so stop by and get involved with the BOC.

The following directorships are run by the Council members.

Hikes and Trips

The Hikes and Trips directors of the BOC organize trips throughout New England from Acadia National Park on the coast, to Mt. Katahdin in northern Maine, to the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire. Both day and overnight trips are offered throughout the year, and most require little previous experience. In addition to hiking, the Hikes and Trips directors also plan rock and ice climbing and winter mountaineering trips. The trips are completely student run, and meals and instruction provided. Any equipment can be rented in the BOC Equipment Room, so come on and start enjoying the outdoors!

Equipment Room

Located in the basement of Hathorn Hall, the E-room is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from 4-5. Equipment for private trips as well as BOC excursions can be used for free by the Bates community. The E-room has a good selection of gear ranging from the basics like tents and sleeping bags to canoes, kayaks, skis, sleds, and winter climbing gear. The E-room also has maps and guidebooks, and the E-room directors can offer suggestions for good private trips in the area. Stop by and check it out.

Hickories

The name comes from the days when skis were still made of hickory, but in addition to downhill skiing, snowboarding, and cross-country skiing trips, the hickories directors also plan mountain and road bike trips in the spring and fall. Through ski season, the BOC runs trips to Sugarloaf, Sunday River, and nearby Lost Valley. Cross-country trips are run to nearby touring centers, or to local trails. There is plentiful mountain biking in the spring and fall with group rides on local trails.

Cabins and Trails

The BOC maintains several sections of hiking trails including a 4.5 mile section of the Appalachian Trail. The BOC also maintains a cabin and trail to the summit of Mt. Abraham, located near Sugarloaf, and maintains an adirondack lean-to only 20 minutes from campus. The Cabins and Trails directors organize trips to clear and blaze trails, build bridges, and repair the cabins and lean-tos. Cabins and Trails trips are a great opportunity to get involved in preserving the quality of the natural environment.

Water Sports

As the name suggests, the water sports directors run canoeing and kayaking trips to local rivers and lakes. Both flatwater and whitewater trips are offered for all experience levels. A kayak clinic in the Bates' pool is offered to practice basic skills before attempting a river. Swimming trips and kayak surfing trips to hang out with the harbor seals on local beaches are also run.

Environment

As a club that actively enjoys the outdoors, the BOC considers concern for the environment a primary facet of our activities. Moving beyond simply teaching low-impact camping techniques, the Environment directors organize clean-up trips, and keep the club informed of environmental concerns both regionally and nationally. The Environment directors also act as a liaison with the Bates Environmental Coalition to keep the BOC involved in important issues that affect the environment.

Safety

Safety is an important concern for BOC trip leaders, and the Safety directors are responsible for educating the Council members about safety issues. BOC trip leaders are required to attend a weekend-long wilderness medicine course and to be certified in first-aid and CPR. The safety directors organize these courses for the BOC, and help conduct leadership workshops for new trip leaders.

Publicity

The publicity directors keep the College informed about upcoming BOC activities. Look in the Bates Daily (available in Commons at mealtime), or stop by the BOC booth near the entrance to Chase Hall to find out about BOC sponsored events.