

Ranger School Dates: 11 to 19 July 2015

Consider travel days on 10 and 20 July

School Commander: Col Tom Benckert

Detailed Questions: should be emailed to rangerstaff@yahoo.com.

They will be directed to the proper staff member.

(Please provide your contact information, including the student's name, CAPID, and wing)

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Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the 2015 Hawk Mountain Ranger School. It is the longest running Search and Rescue (SAR) school in the nation. It is the most physically demanding, academically stringent, and rewarding activity that Civil Air Patrol has to offer. Whether you are a senior (officer) or cadet, you will be provided with hands-on SAR, field leadership experience, and survival training.

This school takes place in the wilderness and not a dormitory. You and your fellow students will be pitted against the elements, and you will find that your attendance will set you apart from your contemporaries. The knowledge that you will gain about yourself, the Ranger program, and search & rescue will remain with you for the rest of your life.

This is an outdoor school, with no modern conveniences available to the students. Conditions are primitive, with no indoor plumbing and no electricity. Showers will be provided, but are limited, and will be available in cold water only. Sleeping will be only in tents, regardless of the weather experienced. Weather can be dry or rainy, with temperatures changing from the high 90's to 40 degrees within hours. All cell phones will be collected at sign in, and students may only call home in the event of an emergency.

The Hawk Mountain Ranger School is located in southeastern Pennsylvania, in Berks County, 5 miles northeast of Hamburg, on Pine Swamp Road. 40° 37' 31" N 75° 56' 35" W. This CAP corporate property is seventy-seven acres, near the Hawk Mountain Bird Sanctuary and the Appalachian Trail, which runs through the training area. There are several permanent pole buildings and staff offices. The training area is operated by Ranger Staff of the Pennsylvania Wing, Civil Air Patrol.

The school is very demanding, both physically and mentally. The curriculum and standards of the school's training, facilities, and equipment are constantly evaluated for improvements and needed updates as funding allows. The Staff are volunteers. They will teach and train you for nine full days. You are expected to do your best for those nine days.

Student Requirements:

Cadets

- Must have completed **Achievement #1** (Curry Award)
- Current CAP membership
- Must be at least **13 years of age** by 10 July 2015
- Must have completed Basic Encampment
- Check to see if your Wing has any other requirements before you apply.

Seniors (officer)

- Must have completed **Level 1**
- Must have completed **Cadet Protection Training**
- Current CAP membership

All Students (completed by the start of the school in July)

- Must be in **Physical Category 1** throughout the duration of the school.
CAP Physical Categories are described in CAPR 52-18
- Completed **OPSEC**
- Must be **safety compliant**. http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/safety/safety_education/
- Current 101 Emergency Services Card with at least **General ES**
- CAPT 117 part 1
- Complete FEMA **IS 100** - Introduction to Incident Command System
- Complete FEMA **IS 700a** - National Incident Management System (NIMS)

Students attending advanced courses must also complete:

- **CAPT 117 part 3** (CAPT 117 part 3 is not required for Senior Basic)
- **Skills Evaluator Training (SET)**
- **IS 200** - ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
- **IS 800** - National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction

After completing these online courses, make sure you save the certificate sent from FEMA. Give a copy of these certificates to your Squadron Commander or ES Officer so they can be entered into the CAP 101 Database.

Review your CAP Member Search Report – This can be found on CAP Member log in page. Sign in, then click “Member Search” on the left side. Enter all or part of a CAPID or name and depress the Tab key. Click to view **Member Search Report** on the top of the page. Make sure all the required Safety, ORM, ICUT, 101 certification & FEMA Certificates are listed. If they not listed, you must give copies of your certificates to your squadron commander or ES officer to record in the national database.

Course of Instruction

Cadet Basic Course

During this first year course, students will gain hands-on experience in woodsmanship skills, equipment, navigation, team mobility, search operations, crash site procedures and survival skills, including killing and preparation of small wild game. Cadets will have an opportunity to rappel on our 60+ foot tower. Cadets will practice their newly learned skills during several search simulations and spend three days away from base camp on a field training exercise. The field training will include extensive hiking with full 72-hour gear. Students will train through the Ranger 3rd Class & GTM 3 and have the opportunity to reach Ranger 2nd Class & GTM 2.

Packing list: http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9dayBCoursePacklist_1_0.pdf

Basic Course Fee: \$350.00 (includes food and some safety equipment)

Apply for this course under "All other courses." A supplemental application is required.

Basic Communication Support Course – Mission Radio Operator

Students will learn the skills required to become CAP mission radio operators with familiarity of both VHF & HF radios. Students will learn mission base, field operations, remote communications relay stations, and communications equipment set up and operations. Upon successful completion of this course, students will become ROA certified. Students will also receive training in woodsmanship skills, search techniques, navigation and map reading, casualty evacuation, team deployment skills, basic survival skills, including killing and preparation of small wild game. Cadets will have an opportunity to rappel on our 60+ foot tower. Cadets will practice their newly learned skills during several search simulations and spend three days away from base camp on a field training exercise. This exercise will include extensive hiking with full equipment and the student will be tasked as a mission radio operator (MRO) to support the squadrons on the FTX.

Communication students have the opportunity to progress through Ranger 3rd Class & GTM 3 and have the opportunity to reach Ranger 2nd Class & GTM 2. Students may also receive credit towards UDF SQTR training in addition to their MRO.

Packing list: http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9dayBCoursePacklist_1_0.pdf

Basic Communication Support Course Fee: \$350.00 (includes food and some safety equipment)

Apply for this course under "All other courses." A supplemental application is also required.

Cadet Advanced Course (Alpha)

Cadets returning for the second year will learn rescue techniques, land search theory, air to ground coordination, advanced navigation skills including latitude and longitude, casualty evacuation, advanced survival skills, and SAR team training. Cadets will also learn the leadership skills necessary to build Ranger Teams in their home units. Cadets will have an opportunity to rappel on our 60+ foot tower. Cadets will practice their newly honed skills during several search simulations and spend four days away from base camp on a field training exercise. The field training will include extensive hiking with full 72-hour gear. Students will train through the Ranger 1st Class GTM1 level.

Prerequisite: Completion of the Cadet Basic or Basic Communication course. Equivalent training may be accepted in place of the basic course. An interview, a written test and a physical fitness test may be conducted by our staff prior to acceptance.

Packing list: http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9dayBCoursePacklist_1_0.pdf

Cadet Advanced Fee: \$350.00 (includes food and some safety equipment) Apply for this course under "All other courses." A supplemental application is also required.

Senior Basic Course (Sierra)

This course is for senior members to obtain the necessary skills and qualifications to eventually become Squadron Ranger Team Commanders. Virtually all the Cadet basic and advanced training is included, in addition to the legal aspects of SAR, the Incident Command System, team management, including required paperwork, and NIMS certification. Students use the skills learned to manage a search team during a simulated mission. As a Ranger Team Commander, it is imperative to maintain physical fitness in order to lead teams in the field. In addition to classroom training, this course also includes a three day field training exercise including an extensive hike on the mountain with full 72-hour gear. During the field training exercise, the students will be assigned to a cadet squadron for a mentored exposure to team management, demonstrating the skills they learned throughout the week. Students will participate in PT every morning. Students will have an opportunity to rappel on our 60+ foot tower. Physical Category 1 must be maintained throughout the school. Students will train through the Ranger 1st Class and GTML level. Graduates are encouraged to return to advance their training.

Packing list: http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9dayBCoursePacklist_1_0.pdf

Senior Basic Course Fee: \$350.00 (includes food and some safety equipment)

Apply for this course under "All other courses." A supplemental application is also required.

Air Crew Survival Course (3 day course) Sunday, 13 July, 0800 hours to 15 July - Graduation at 1800 hours (with travel days of 12 July and evening of the 15th or 16th)

Can you survive in the woods with just what is in your aircraft? This course is designed to teach you just that, and more. For all Air Crew Members (Seniors and Cadets over 18), this course will provide invaluable information on how to survive until help arrives. The Ranger Instructor Staff is well versed in all aspects of survival training. Students will experience hands-on outdoor classroom training and two days of practical survival experience in the field. The course will cover Egress Training, Initial Survival Concerns, Survival Kits, *The WILL TO SURVIVE*, Improvising Equipment, Communications, Signaling, Land Navigation, First Aid, Personal Hygiene, Nutrition, Water Procurement, Basic Survival Skills for all Regions, Shelter, Weather, Fire Building, and the practical experience of survival.

Packing list: <http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/acsurv3daypacklist.pdf>

If you have a survival kit for your plane we suggest you bring it along, if possible.

Air Crew Survival Course Fee: \$150.00 for the 3-day course (includes food and some safety equipment).

Apply for this course under "Air Crew Survival."

Ranger Staff Training Course (Romeo)

This course has been developed to enable Cadets returning for a second year from wings other than PA to become Ranger Staff Cadets. It compresses the usual 7 weekends of intense staff training into 9 days. Students will be pushed to their limits both physically and mentally as they are taught, hands-on, a variety of skills including leadership, team management, effective teaching techniques, the importance of duty and commitment, SAR skills, advanced navigation, and woodsmanship. During the field exercise, students act as team commanders for a basic squadron. After the field exercise, students will immediately begin a survival hike, which will test all skills including navigation ability, endurance, survival techniques, and self-confidence. Students who complete this course may be awarded their Yellow Scarf.

Prerequisite: Students must have completed Cadet Basic or Advanced and Ranger 2nd Class. There will be an interview and written and physical fitness tests given by our staff prior to committing you to this course.

Packing list: <http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9daycrstMtangoIndstudy.pdf>

Ranger Staff Training Course Fee: \$350.00 (includes food and some safety equipment)

Apply for this course under "All other courses." A supplemental application is also required.

Ranger Field Medic Course (Mike)

This second year course is designed for any cadet or senior who is interested in becoming a Ranger Team Medic. Students will be taught ECSI's (Emergency Care and Safety Institute) Advanced Wilderness First Aid for the initial curriculum, in conjunction with field sanitation and hygiene training for wilderness operations. Students will be instructed in preventive care for team members, trauma assessments, mass casualty triage, and the transport of patients in the field. This course is academically challenging, combining both the Cadet Advanced Course curriculum and Field Medic Training. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be certified in Advanced Wilderness First Aid, CPR, and will have the opportunity to become part of Ranger Staff as a Field Medic.

Prerequisite: Completion of the Cadet or Senior Basic course, Ranger 2nd Class, and a professional CPR certification is mandatory. Early registration is required since there may be pre-course assignments as part of the school curriculum.

Packing list: <http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9daycrstMtangoIndstudy.pdf>

Ranger Field Medic Course Fee: \$450.00 Includes food, some safety equipment, manuals and medical bag. Apply for this course under "Ranger Field Medic" A supplemental application is also required.

Ranger Team Commander Course (Tango)

This is for students returning to HMRS for the second or third year. The Ranger Team Commanders Course is a mentally and physically tasking course, teaching both cadets and seniors Team Leadership skills in the field environment. The students will find confidence in themselves, their team members, and in the use of their equipment in multiple in-depth training scenarios. This course is built to challenge your comfort zone as a leader and will stretch your limits and training in the field or while on rappel on our 60+ foot tower. Advanced Navigation, Search Theory, SAR Techniques, and Mission Team Leadership is heavily emphasized throughout the course. Academics will be taught at the Advanced Ranger Level, and will cover Ground Team Leaders tasks and Ranger Team Commander knowledge. This course requires participants to be highly self-motivated and have no physical limitations. Students will train through the Ranger 1st Class & GTL level and have the opportunity to reach Advanced Ranger.

Prerequisite: Students must have attended a HMRS Summer School or served on Staff, must be a Ranger 2nd Class, and a GTM 1 or GTL Trainee. Students should be mission eligible and capable. Cadet must be at least 16 years of age. There will be an interview and physical fitness test given by our staff prior to committing you to this course.

Packing list: <http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9daycrstMtangoIndstudy.pdf>

Team Commanders Course Fee: \$350.00 (includes food and some safety equipment)

Apply for this course under "All other courses." A supplemental application is also required.

Ground Branch Director Course

This nine day course is geared towards senior members already qualified at the Ground Team Leader level who wish to upgrade to a Ground Branch Director. The course includes IS300 in the curriculum taught by certified FEMA instructors. Students will use these new skills and build upon their GTL experiences to direct and coordinate a multi-day field exercise with multiple search problems conducted by numerous ground teams over a variety of terrain.

Pre-requisites: Qualified GTL, IS100, IS200, IS700, IS800.

Packing list: <http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRSGBDpacklist.pdf>

Ground Branch Director Course Fee: \$350.00 (includes food, some safety equipment and primitive lodging - tents ...Remember, this is Hawk Mountain. (If you want to make this a day course other lodging arrangements can be made at your own cost. Contact rangerstaff@yahoo.com for more information

Apply for this course under "All other courses." A supplemental application is also required.

Independent Study Course (formerly Special Advanced Echo)

This course exposes cadet and senior Rangers to the Expert Ranger level of search & rescue, woodsmanship, and survival. Designed to improve knowledge and skills acquired in the Team Commander Course, the Independent Study Course may advance students to Expert Ranger Level and prepare them to become part of HMRS Staff. Most subjects are tailored to the students' needs and taught one-on-one by experienced instructors. All students must be capable of performing advanced tasks under heavy physical and mental stress. Independent Study students will be annexed with Tango.

Prerequisite: Students must have completed the Ranger Team Commanders Course (Tango) and be age 18 or older.

Packing list: <http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9daycrstMtangoIndstudy.pdf>

Independent Study Course Fee: \$350.00 (includes food and some safety equipment)

Apply for this course under "All other courses." A supplemental application is also required.

All Courses

If you want to challenge a prerequisite for any course, you must submit your completed supplemental application along with documentation of your experiences, course completions, certificates and a letter stating why you should be exempt from the prerequisites.

Note: Attendance at the school does not guarantee successful completion of the course or being awarded Ranger Grade or 101 ratings. Passing a written test and skills performance evaluation is required in order to complete all courses. **Departure prior to Graduation will prohibit course completion.**

All Ranger Grades and 101 ratings are dependent on tasks that cannot be completed at the school. For example, you cannot earn GTM3 without first completing CAPT 177 part 1, IS100 and 700, Radio Operator ICUT, and Basic First Aid. For this reason, it is very important that you complete all prerequisites for the course you desire. Please check STQR and Ranger Testing sheets as well, to be sure that you can fulfill all requirements.

CAP Physical Category 1* must be upheld though out the school. If Students cannot participate in the school due to injury or commit an infraction of CAP code of honor, they will be sent home, at their expense, if deemed necessary by the school staff. Students in all of our courses will actively participate in several "High Adventure Activities." This includes training in rappelling, rock climbing and completing the challenging Obstacle Course. As with all other activities at Hawk Mountain, these are supervised by appropriately trained and certified senior officers with many years experience and using prudent and applicable safety precautions.

The student fee is non-refundable. The online payment should not be processed until you are certain you are attending the school.

Contacts / Dates:

Hawk Mountain Base

218 Pine Swamp Road
Kempton, PA 19529
610-756-4170 Active only 10 - 19 July 2015

PAWG Headquarters

Attn: Hawk Mountain Ranger School
Building 3-108
Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003

Important Dates:

School Arrival: Students may arrive between 1100 – 2130 hrs. Friday, 10 July
or 0600 - 1000 hrs. Saturday, 10 July.

Formal check-in: Will be conducted between 0800 - 1100 hrs on Saturday, 11 July.
Early arrivals may also check in between 1930 – 2000 hrs on Friday, 10 July.

Your valid CAP membership card and the completed CAPF160 and 161 are required at check-in.
This form will be emailed to you two weeks prior to the school.

Graduation: 1000 hrs. - Sunday, 19 July - All visitors are welcome, particularly parents and unit commanders.

Student Release: Approx. 1400 hrs. 19 July - Families and others awaiting students release should expect a 3 to 4 hour period after Parade & Review to close the school down to its normal woodland environment. Limited refreshments and souvenirs will be available for sale. You might want to take this time to visit the Hawk Mountain Bird Sanctuary located on top of the mountain or the Cabela's super store, which is only a few miles away.

Transportation / Travel

All students and staff are responsible for making their own transportation arrangements. Hawk Mountain Ranger School will only provide transportation to and from **Lehigh Valley Int. Airport (ABE) and the Allentown Bus Terminal**. To arrange pick-up and/or drop off, please email your full (arrival and departure) travel itinerary to rangerstaff@yahoo.com. **Note our transportation to the terminals takes approximately 1 hour. Do not schedule departing flights before 1500 hrs on Sunday, 19 July.**

*****Special Note: ***** HMRS has made arrangements for students departing on Monday, 20 July. These students will be staying Sunday night at Hawk Mt. Base with Senior Staff. There is an additional \$10.00 fee for these students, which will cover dinner for Sunday evening, breakfast Monday, and hot showers. Please submit cash or a separate check (made payable to PA Wing CAP, Hawk) for this fee and note in the memo section the student's last name and "Sunday night." The Staff will make sure that students are at the airport/bus terminals on time.

Air Transportation

Lehigh Valley International Airport is the only airport for which the school will provide transportation. The following airlines service the airport:

Allegiant Air	Delta Airlines
Frontier Airlines	US Airways
United Airlines	

Lehigh Valley Int. Airport (**ABE**) - 800-FLY-LVIA or on the web at <http://www.flylv.com>

Ground Transportation

The Allentown Bus Terminal is the only bus terminal for which the school will provide transportation. The following bus lines serve that terminal:

Trailways	Greyhound
Trans Bridge	

Allentown Bus Terminal - 610-434-6188

Driving

The school is located near Interstate 78, between Harrisburg and Allentown.

From Lenhartsville Exit 35: Take Exit #35 of Interstate 78/US Route 22 "Lenhartsville." At the bottom of the ramp, turn left and travel north on PA Route 143 for approximately 5 miles. Turn left onto Hawk Mountain Rd. (There will be a gas station on the right.) After approximately 100 yards, bear left at the "Y" and follow the road for another 3 miles. Turn left onto Pine Swamp Road and proceed about 1 mile to the entrance of the training area on the left. Signs are placed at critical locations to assist you.

From Reading / Pottsville Exit 29: Take Exit 29 towards Pottsville on PA-61 N. After 4 miles, turn right (at the light) onto PA-895, Summer Valley Road. After 2.4 miles, turn right onto Hawk Mountain Road. Follow this for 3.8 miles, past the Hawk Mt Bird Sanctuary, to the bottom of the mountain. Make a right onto Pine Swamp Rd. Follow this for 1.2 miles. Hawk Mt Ranger School will be on the right. If you miss Pine Swamp Road on the way down the mountain, Pine Swamp Road intersects again approximately one mile later. Turn right onto the other end of Pine Swamp Road. Hawk Mt Ranger School is on the left after 1 mile.

Google Driving direction can be found at <http://capranger.org/directions.html>

Hawk Mountain Ranger School telephone number: 610-756-4170 (this is only active during the school.)

Equipment Requirements – See the link below each course description for packing lists.

Upon arrival at the school, each student squadron will set up tents in a field camp not far from the parade field. Students must be able to carry their own gear to this area. During the 3-day field training exercise, much of their gear can remain at this camp. Students are required to have a large backpack (72 hour pack) and a small pack (day pack) for day gear. Many also bring a large rubbermaid-type container to keep their gear dry when it is not in use.

Students are responsible for caring for their own equipment. Prior to the school, organize and pack it so it is waterproof. For example, put socks in plastic bags and laminate your qualification cards. Prepack your day pack so it is ready to go when you arrive. Test all of your equipment. Pack only what you need. You may want to bring a limited amount of cash for purchase of food and supplies - about \$50.00.

Over the past few years the Hawk Mountain BX has been developing business relationships with many equipment suppliers in order to provide the students and staff with affordable equipment. You may preorder using the order form found on <http://capranger.org/hawkbx.html> or you may purchase items when you arrive at the school. Please remember that the BX is staffed by all volunteers. We will ship your order, but in most cases, immediate shipping of equipment is unavailable. To insure availability, you can pre-order items and pick them up when you arrive at school. (Orders must be mailed with checks before 25 June. Please do not email orders. See the directions on the order form.)

REQUIRED Safety Equipment

The Safety Equipment is required for all Students and Staff. If they are not already, these items will become a part of your normal Ranger Operations equipment. The following required safety equipment will be provided to you as part of your school fee:

- Orange hat
- Orange vest
- Orange hard hat with elastic chin strap or nape strap
- Eye protection

The following required safety items are NOT provided and must be brought by the student or purchased at the BX:

- Leather gloves \$10.00
- Eye glasses strap (if needed) \$2.00

Links:

CAP Member log in page <https://www.capnhq.gov/CAP.eServices.Web/Default.aspx>

General Emergency Services Online Test: CAPT 116 part 1, CAPT 117 part 1
http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/cap_university/online_courses_exams.cfm

Introduction to Incident Command System <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is100b.asp>

- **IS 700a** - National Incident Management System (NIMS)
<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is700a.asp>
- **IS 200** - ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is200b.asp>
- **IS 800** - National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction
<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is800b.asp>

FEMA provides many programs, courses, and materials to support emergency preparedness and response for emergency personnel as well as the general public. For more information, go to www.fema.gov and click *EDUCATION AND TRAINING* at the top of the page.

The CAP Course Materials and Test can be found at:

http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/cap_university/online_courses_exams.cfm

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Ranger Testing Sheets can be found on the HMRS web page
https://pawg.cap.gov/hawk_mountain **Detailed questions should be** emailed to rangerstaff@yahoo.com. They will be directed to the proper staff member. (Please provide your contact information, including the student's name)

Hawk Mountain Ranger School website: <http://capranger.org>

Packing List Links:

Cadet Basic Course, Basic Communication Support Course – Mission Radio Operator, Cadet Advanced Course (Alpha) and Senior Basic Course (Sierra)

http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9dayBCoursePacklist_1_0.pdf

Ranger Staff Training Course (Romeo), Ranger Field Medic Course (Mike), Ranger Team Commander Course (Tango) and Independent Study Course (formerly Special Advanced Echo) <http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRS9daycrstMtangoIndstudy.pdf>

Ground Branch Director Course

<http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/HMRSGBDpacklist.pdf>

Air Crew Survival Course <http://www.pawg.cap.gov/sites/default/files/acsurv3daypacklist.pdf>

Hawk Mountain Ranger School Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Hawk-Mountain-Ranger-School/184768991579912?ref=hl>

Hawk Mountain Ranger School email address: rangerstaff@yahoo.com