

USING THE SPOTX DEVICE FOR CATAMOUNT TRAIL ASSOCIATION MULTI-DAY TOURS

The SPOTX devices are intended for emergency use only and then only if cell phone coverage is unavailable. Please refer to the SPOTX user manual and quick start guides as your primary sources of information. The devices are not a substitute for good planning and discipline. Having said that here are some tips:

- 1) Read the quick start guide.
- 2) Make sure you have charged the device prior to your tour.
- 3) The SPOTX devices will automatically receive messages every 10 minutes or immediately after you send a message. You can manually receive messages at any time. There may be additional charges for receiving messages beyond the very limited monthly allocation but that should not deter you from testing the device once before a tour or using them in an emergency.
- 4) Prior to your tour test the device by sending a predetermined test message to your assistant leader or day leader's cell phone. The cell phone numbers of all tour leaders and most trail chiefs have already been entered in the SPOTX devices. The predetermined message list has a test message. You may send an unlimited number of test messages to cell phones without incurring an additional charge. You can also manually add phone numbers for your use.
- 5) Prior to the tour test the device by sending a test message to the 2nd SPOTX device and send a response to that message.
- 6) Know how to activate the SOS signal but do not test that function. Once you activate SOS, you will only be able to communicate with GEOS IERCC until the SOS is canceled.
- 7) Turn on your SPOTX devices as when you are ready to ski and put them in the top pocket of your pack. Remember that you can only reliably communicate from an open area with a clear view of the ski. Now forget you have them until you have an emergency that requires their use.