

Dirt Devils Rubicon Trail

Run Leader: Tim Thomas

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Please RSVP by Saturday, June 19 (Juneteenth), 2027 or sooner. Limit is 8 vehicles. Current Members will be considered first before Guests.

HAM Radio Channels: DD Prime 145.585 or DD1 146.580

Planning Day: Prior to the trail, we will meet Tuesday, June 22 for all to discuss the proper equipment, what to bring, and/or who brings what tools/equipment etc. to be as fully prepared to successfully get everyone through the trail. We will meet at Zitos Pizza for dining and then the parking lot behind the complex to look over vehicles and coordinate parts and tools as necessary.

When: On the trail Tuesday, July 13, 2027 with 3 nights on the trail. I would like to stay at Buck Island for 2 nights and the Rubicon Soda Springs Private Camp 1 night. Trail completion will be July 16, 2027 and travel home the next day or stay and run some other adventurous trails after a day of rest and cleaning. Open conversations about details are welcome.

This date is very subject to change. If a Jeepers Jamboree or other major event is posted on the Rubicon Springs Foundation Calendar, our date will be adjusted with a large amount of time to accommodate anyone who legitimately plans on committing. There is lots of time ahead of the calendar year. Please visit the link to view the calendar. <https://www.rubicontrailfoundation.org/trail-calendar/>

Trail Description: The Rubicon Trail is an amazing rock crawling adventure that will test your mental ability and allow you more trust in the capability of your 4x4 vehicle. This is a trail of pacing yourself mentally, and enjoying the beautiful scenery through the El Dorado National Forest and out through beautiful Lake Tahoe. You will crawl over boulders, large granite slabs, domes, hills, and anything else Mother Nature puts in front of us. This all starts with the arrival on Ice House Road and staging once we cross the Loon Lake Dam. Just an amazing way to begin!!!!



Day 1 - In order to better understand the pace of the Rubicon Trail, Day 1's Plan is to travel 5.8-6 miles in approximately 6-8 hours and arrive at Buck Island Lake. We will encounter obstacles in the trees, granite bowls, granite domes, and hills. There are going to be many boulder obstacles. DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK FOR A SPOTTER. Help will be there. Optional obstacle is the Little Sluice.



Day 2 - The group will be staying at Buck Island Lake to enjoy recreation plans. The plan is to take a day to relax from the hard work of the trail and to once again prepare for the next day to Rubicon Springs Private Campground. Bring some games, swim suit, fishing poles, or anything worth carrying to relax at Buck Island Lake

Day 3 - has many intense obstacles ahead such as Big Sluice as the group will make small travel to the Rubicon Springs Private Campground. This other "half" is

approximately 10.6 miles, but a very slow and intense travel of about 2 miles to the Rubicon Springs Private Campground. Staying at the camp, we can enjoy the accommodations, property, and any other entertainment this private campground and host may offer. However, we will make reservations ASAP, most likely January 1, 2027. This can offer another great time to relax just before making the final climb up Cadillac Hill and out of the trail.



Day 4 will be the other “portion” of approximately 10.6 miles from Buck Island Lake to complete. The major obstacles consisted of Big Sluice after Buck Island Lake and Cadillac Hill when leaving Rubicon Springs. The day is easier as the trail calms down from completing Cadillac Hill. Do not be fooled. There are plenty of challenges each day on the Rubicon Trail. Staying at the Rubicon Springs Private Campground, we will enjoy more of a final day in the morning and take time with breakfast, coffee, and packing. I am in no rush to leave until we must. Enjoy nature because how often do all of us get an opportunity such as this. A reminder, there are obstacles around the camp and that will warm us up again for Cadillac Hill.

Vehicle Requirements: At least a minimum of 33" tires for most depending on vehicle as some have become necessary, a good spare tire and tire repair kit/patches, lockers (front and rear), rock sliders, skid plates, and plenty of body armor. Be sure to have either a hard top roof or the proper roll bars. A winch is also required as well as a good tow strap, shackles, and tow points on the vehicle. Please be sure your vehicle is in great working and mechanical condition. Check and retorque bolts and bring all necessary tools and spare parts. It is recommended to have as many spare tools, spare axles, and any necessary parts along with the Rubicon Trail. Please ask for any help with members, friends, family, or professional mechanics to be ready.

What to Bring: Be sure to bring the proper camping equipment such as a sleeping bag, tent, grill and stove as well as clothes for any changing conditions to the weather. Although it may not rain or be cold, it may be a good idea to have a good jacket and/or raincoat. Bring plenty of food and water for days on the trail. ABSOLUTELY no

consuming of alcoholic beverages while driving on the trail. Great time for such adult beverages at the camp after the end of a day driving on the trail.

Additionally, be sure to bring toilet paper, wet-wipes, and other toiletries. There are some outhouses located in **SOME** convenient points of the trail. However, you will most likely need a bucket, portable toilet, bag, etc. Tim will be carrying one and bags for any who may need.

Please reach out for any help as well as any questions. Thank you for your interest in joining me!

