Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about our weekend Field trips:

Do I need to register for the field trips?

Preregistration is not required for any field trips - just show up at those you're interested in going to. However, please be sure to sign in upon arrival at the field trip site. This helps us keep track of how many members are attending each field trip, whether you're staying for the potluck or not, if you are willing to host in the future, future Lost and Found purposes, etc.

Can I bring other people who are non-members?

Field Trips are for MEMBERS ONLY. Members of your household that wish to attend field trips should be listed as members on your PSMS profile page. It is OK to bring a friend or extended family member once or twice to a field trip. If they wish to attend more regularly, we ask that they join PSMS. You may not bring groups of friends who are nonmembers. If you have any questions regarding these policies please contact Marian Maxwell at president@psms.org.

When are the field trips? Can we camp overnight at the site?

Field trip times are held on Saturdays, with Mushroom ID people available. Additional camping times may be available from Friday afternoon-Sunday morning, for those field trip sites that list the dates to cover the entire weekend (this is noted on the field trip insert and calendar). This is complementary to our membership, and is paid for out of our Membership Dues and Annual Fall Show income.

When should I arrive at the field trip location?

Please arrive early on field trip days (between 8:00 and 9:00 am) if you want to join with others going out in a group or be led by a PSMS Field Trip Guide. Be prepared - go with a group: Dress appropriately. At field trips it is highly recommended that you always go out in the woods with at least one other person in case of an emergency. Be sure to have your cell phone charged and with you and also it is very handy if you have Motorola-like two way radios for communication in rough terrain or when out of sight with others. Following these simple suggestions could actually save your life.

What about food?

If you are new, be sure to say Hello and introduce yourself to our Volunteer Hosts, who bring and serve up the coffee, and snacks, as well as set out potluck plates, utensils etc., for the event. Complimentary Coffee and Breakfast Snacks will be provided after 9 AM. Potlucks are usually held sometime between 3-5pm. Remember to bring Serving Utensils for your potluck dish. The hosts have a limited back-up supply available if needed. These are paid for out of our Membership Dues and Annual Fall Show income. If you would like to Host or co-Host a future field trip, contact our Volunteer Host Coordinator at host@psms.org . It is a terrific way to meet and get to know many of our interesting membership, and there is still plenty of time to go mushroom foraging. You may even discover new foraging partner(s) while serving up that morning coffee!!!

Is there a way we can carpool with other members?

Carpooling: Kindly consider joining the PSMS Yahoo groups, and let the group know if you are looking for, or offering to drive a carpool. If you are a Passenger, please remember to offer to help pay for the driver's gas expenses. Drivers, please let your passengers know the terms of your agreement up front, such as if you plan to stay for the potluck, gas \$ contributions, if you are staying overnight, etc.

To join the PSMS-Members Yahoo group, first log in to your member profile page at the www.psms.org website using the user name and password assigned to you when you joined PSMS. On top of the profile are instructions and a link for the Yahoo group. Click on the link, then click on "Join This Group." If you are not sure what your Username or Password is, send an email to membership@psms.org.

Can I bring my dog?

Only friendly, well-behaved dogs are welcome at field trips and must be leashed and under your supervision (including cleaning up after them) at all times. You may not leave your dog unattended and tethered at a shelter or campsite, in your car or for others to have to watch while out collecting.

Can we go ahead of time and hunt in the area?

Please do not hunt in the immediate field trip areas up to two weeks prior to the field trip. This is a courtesy to your fellow members and also to our club itself.

Do I need any kind of permits for the field trips?

You are responsible for your own permits for our field trip areas.