

When you show up to a Friends of GNFAC 1hr Awareness talk you can expect:

An engaging slide show with avalanche information, images, videos and strategies to help you have more awareness for the avalanche phenomena! These talks are for people ranging from no avalanche knowledge to someone looking for an annual refresher, anyone who attends will walk away having learned something new. These talks are appropriate for a wide range of ages, we teach similar content to middle schoolers across southwest Montana.

We emphasize the Basics!

The “Basics” are stressed in all our classes regardless of the user group or the class type. Time and time again we see accidents and fatalities resulting from a failure to follow the basics. These include: recognizing avalanche terrain, exposing one person at a time, identifying obvious signs of instability like recent avalanches, and carrying avalanche rescue gear. These basic principles are not always obvious or easy to do in practice, thus we constantly stress them in every class. They are covered well by 4 talking points: GET the Gear, GET the Training, GET the Forecast, GET the Picture. These principles are part of Know Before You Go more information here: <https://www.kbyg.org/awareness>

GET THE GEAR: Ensure everyone has an avalanche transceiver, shovel, and probe on their person and knows how to use them.

GET THE TRAINING: Take a field based avalanche course.

GET THE FORECAST: Make a plan based on the current avalanche and weather forecast. Know what resources exist.

GET THE PICTURE: Understand where avalanches happen and how to follow good terrain practices to keep yourself safe. Look for obvious signs of instability and choose terrain to match conditions.