Our Ecological Goal

Our ecological goal is to operate in a fashion that has a low impact on the land; to support and participate in conservation efforts; and to contribute in financially meaningful ways to the preservation of the natural environment and our local community.

Our Green Materials & Practices

We believe that “being green” is more than providing our clients with environmentally sound materials. It is also about superior construction practices and careful planning in order to minimize waste. As a practice, Adventure Más offers the following:

- Lumber and utility poles purchased from certified, sustainable forests
- Specialty hardware of the highest environmental standard
- Environmentally beneficial and durable building materials
- Metal materials recycled
- Sites designed to minimize environmental impact
- Low-maintenance, low water, ecologically balanced landscape design if possible

Our Construction, Materials & Designs Standards

- Pre-planning design and consultation on construction of ropes challenge course at no cost.
- We have liability insurance up to two million dollars for our products and our training.
- Ropes challenge course customized to your specifications and needs; your choice of over 60 low and high elements.
- We build high elements that will actively engage up to 12 participants while in use.
- All lumber used in construction is treated and weather resistant. All wooden structures are fastened with bolts and screws. (No nails are used as fasteners.)
- Design characteristics of the ropes challenge course take into consideration environmental aesthetics and ethics, and the angle of the sun and how it will affect the spotters and belayers. Our objectives are to increase aesthetic appearance, practice sound construction principles, and/or increase the longevity, safety, or ease of use.
- Clearing and tree trimming are executed according to established arboriculture practices.
- Advice from our consulting arborist regarding potential problems with onsite trees.
- Onsite supervision during the drilling and setting of utility poles for the ropes challenge course.
- 8’, 10’, and 12’ walls are 8’ wide, with a full-width back platform, with safety railing, and belay cable attachment, giving you more add-ons than what most companies provide.
I Routing, sanding, or rasping of all wooden element surfaces that might come in contact with a participant.

I Cable sleeves are attached to the cables on low and high elements with a swaging tool rather than with cable clamps that require consistent tightening, thus reducing ropes challenge course maintenance and eliminating vandalism.

I Our cable grab systems for fall protection meet all of ANSI’s OSHA qualifications.

I Turnbuckles are included on cabled low elements so the element’s level of difficulty can be increased or decreased.

I Low elements are separated as space permits and are not linked together in order to accommodate the maximum number of participants at the individualized site.

I All guy cables are covered with brightly colored commercial guy guards.

I As a standard, we use 40-foot poles on all high elements and 45-foot poles on the pamper pole, which is higher than what most companies offer.

I On all high element utility poles, we place foot and hand staples, starting at 12’ from the ground and continuing up to the set-up point of the element.

I Whale Watch platforms will be constructed 6-feet by 12-feet, which is often larger than what other companies provide.

I Teflon coated deck screws are used so that they will not rust (Teflon acts as a lubricant to prevent the coating from being abraded while being screwed.), thus not causing staining of the wood for the projected life of the element. Galvanized or zinc plated deck screws are corrosion resistant but can cause staining after a short time (1 to 2 years) because the coating was possibly torn away during installation.

I All decking for climbing wall sides will be constructed with 2” x 6” tongue and groove treated lumber. While this raises lumber and labor costs with the use of fitted boards, no gaps will show in the walls from lumber shrinkage, which improves aesthetic appearance and increases safety because participants can not get their fingers caught in the wall while climbing if there are no gaps.

I Platforms around utility poles on zip line elements are to be constructed full-width for safety and accessibility ease of use reasons (larger top platform for participants and instructors use).

I Foot holds/steps (provided with staples) for access to the top of every pole are to be provided in uniform lengths for ease of use when working with accessibility clients and performing safety checks and rescues on all the poles.

I Two belay cables on most high elements for double belays so that solo participant events can become partner events.

I Builders are experienced in constructing over 60-foot high climbing towers.

I Our ropes challenge course signs are more legally accurate and universally recognizable.

I Safety and security provisions are incorporated into the construction plan to limit access to the elements when the course is not in use.
Ropes challenge courses are built to exceed existing ACCT and PRCA standards.

Lead builders have extensive expertise as practitioners; thus, they understand how a ropes challenge course should be built from the user’s point of view.

Builders are experienced in constructing nationally—including Alaska and Hawaii—as well as internationally.

Our ropes challenge course structures have been inspected and approved by board certified structural engineers.

Our climbing wall holds and features conform to the climbing wall industry group (CWIG) standards.

Our ropes challenge courses are warranted to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for one year.

Equipment

We equip the ropes challenge courses we build with the highest quality equipment possible.

Equipment we sell for rock climbing, mountaineering, or ropes challenge courses meets or exceeds UIAA standards.

FSC Certified Lumber

We use FSC certified lumber when possible. FSC stands for Forest Stewardship Council, a non-profit group that provides standards for sustainable forestry which apply to lumber producers, mills, and distributors. The US Green Building Council’s LEED program requires FSC lumber as part of its certification process. LEED is considered the gold standard in environmentally conscious building programs.

LEED requirements for certified wood are that the builder “use a minimum of 50% (based on cost) of wood-based materials and products that are certified in accordance with the Forest Stewardship Council’s principles and criteria” – usgbc.org.

Utility Pole Standards for Ropes Challenge Course Construction

Adventure Más ensures that all poles and lumber will be treated to the latest American Wood-Preservers Association (AWPA) standards. Your poles should last for 30 years. Here are three crucial questions to ask your vendor:

1. Does the preservative used in the treatment of your wood poles conform to all AWPA standards?
2. Has the wood been pressure-treated according to AWPA standards?
3. Has the moisture content been reduced sufficiently before treatment by one of the following methods: air seasoning, kiln drying, steaming, or a combination of these? It is absolutely necessary to have this moisture content reduced in order to get proper penetration of preservative required for long life.

If you leave out any one of these three steps, your wood has very little chance of lasting 30 years. In fact, any wood not properly treated will decay in 2 to 12 years, depending on soil conditions.