

Monroe County Parks Winter Activities

Downhill Skiing: Groomed hills and learn-to-ski programs are available in Northampton and Powder Mills Parks. All schedules, rentals, and grooming are managed by Swain Ski Resort at 607-545-6511. For on-site information and conditions, please call 585-349-0901 for Northampton, and 585-586-1470 for Powder Mills. All ski slopes are accessed by tow rope. Please visit www.monroecounty.gov/parks or www.swain.com for Ski & Snowboard Brochure, Lessons Order Form, and link to their Facebook pages.

Sledding: Sledding is legal in the Monroe County Parks, but only on designated hills in Black Creek, Ellison, Mendon Ponds, Northampton, and Webster Parks. Sledding is done at your own risk. Sledding is not permitted in any other place in any other Monroe County Park. Lodges for rent nearby the sledding areas include Woodside Lodge at Black Creek Park; Cavalry House, East and West Lodges at Mendon Ponds Park; and Parkview Lodge at Webster Park. There is no lodge for rent near the sledding hill in Ellison Park, or in Northampton Park (Swain Ski Center runs the learn-to-ski program out of the nearby lodge).

Cross-Country Skiing: Groomed trails are located in Durand Eastman, Mendon Ponds, and Webster Parks. Skiing is also permitted on designated hiking trails, and in open fields, in other parks. Cross-Country Skiing is done at your own risk. Equipment is not available for rent in any park. Contact the Rochester Cross Country Ski Foundation at www.rxcfsf.org for program opportunities.

Monroe County Parks Winter Activities

Ice Skating: Groomed ice surfaces are available in Churchville, Ellison, and Highland Parks. Ice skating is not permitted elsewhere in the Monroe County Parks. When ice conditions allow, the skating hours are as follows: Monday through Sunday: 10am-10pm Equipment is not available for rent in any park. Warming huts are available nearby the rinks at Churchville and Highland Parks. Ice conditions will vary depending on weather. Ice skating is done at your own risk.

Snowshoeing: Snowshoeing is permitted on designated hiking trails, or in open fields, in any Monroe County Park. Please snowshoe alongside any groomed cross-country skiing trails. Equipment is available for rent in Mendon Ponds Park only, through Wild Wings, Inc., which is located near the Nature Center. Please call Wild Wings, Inc. at 585-334-7790 for availability. Snowshoeing is done at your own risk.

Ice Fishing: Ice fishing is common at Mendon Ponds, Irondequoit Bay Park West, and Durand Eastman Parks. Ice fishing is done at your own risk, and should not be done if ice thickness is not sufficient. Equipment is not available for rent in any park.

These winter activities are done at your own risk. Availability and access are weather-dependent. Parking in designated, legal spots only. For sledding, cross-country skiing, and ice skating conditions, please call 585-753-7275 M-F between 8:30am and 4:30pm or 585-753-7270 on weekends between 10am and 4pm.