

NEWS RELEASE

To: All News Media
From: Karyn Powers, Recreation Superintendent
Subject: Winter Recreation and Classes
Date: December 9, 2016

The following winter recreation programs, classes and facilities are soon to be available in the area:

Sylvan Tubing

Sylvan Hill will open for public tubing on Saturday, December 17, at 1:30 PM. This first weekend the hours will be Saturday, 1:30 to 5 PM and 6 to 9:30 PM; Sunday, 1:30 to 5 PM. Holiday hours will be Dec. 23, 1:30 to 5 PM and 6 to 9:30 PM, Dec. 24, 1:30 to 5 PM only. The hill will be closed Dec. 25. On Dec. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and January 2, the hill will be open 1:30 to 5 PM and 6 to 9:30 PM. Both Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, the hill will only be open from 1:30 to 5 PM only. All users must be at least 42 inches high to tube.

Tubing Glow Party

The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department and Boys and Girls Club of the Wausau Area are co-hosting a glow party at Sylvan Hill on Friday, January 13, from 6 to 9 PM. Admission will include tubing, a glow kit and snow games. A DJ will be on site from 6 to 9 PM and there will be a *Best-in-Glow Contest* (by grade) at 7:30 PM. Participants are welcome to bring their own glow sticks and glow-in-the-dark materials or purchase additional items on site.

Sledding

Wausau sledding hills are open as snow cover permits. Two sites are lit for night sledding. Hills are open from sunrise to 11 PM daily, and are located at Pleasant View Park, 1221 Sumner Street (lights), 3M Park, 405 Park Blvd (lights) and Riverside Park, 100 Sherman Street. Sledding at Scholfield Park is closed this winter due to the pool construction.

Indoor Ice Skating

Public skating on indoor ice is available in Wausau's Marathon Park Ice Arena. From 11 AM to 1 PM, Monday thru Friday, through March 10, 2017; from 7 PM to 9 PM on Wednesdays through February 22, 2017, and from 2 PM to 5 PM on Sundays through February 19, 2017.

Outdoor Ice Skating

Outdoor rinks will be opened as soon as conditions allow them to be built. Rinks with warming houses and lights are located at the 400 Block in downtown Wausau and in Marathon Park on the southeast side of the Grandstand. An additional rink will be built at Riverview Elementary School on Troy Street. Warming houses will be open Monday through Friday from 5 to 8 PM, Saturdays from 10 AM to 8 PM and Sundays from 10 AM to 6 PM. Holiday hours are Mondays through Saturdays from 1 to 8 PM and Sundays from 1 to 4:30 PM. Warming houses will close at 4 PM on Christmas Eve and be closed on Christmas Day. Hockey boards are available at the Marathon Park skating rink. Anytime the combined air and wind-chill temperatures fall to minus twenty degrees, all rinks will be closed.

Lifeguard Certification Class

Individuals who are at least fifteen years of age can now register for an American Red Cross Lifeguard class to be held January 3, 5 and 6 from 5 to 9 PM and January 7, from 8 AM to 4 PM. The class will be held at John Muir Middle School Pool. Candidates must be able to swim 300 yards, retrieve a brick from the bottom of the pool and return to the shallows in 1 minute and forty seconds, and tread water for two minutes without using their hands. Currently certified lifeguards who need to renew their certifications are welcome to join a portion of the class to recertify. Call the Park Office at 715-261-1550 to register.

Water Exercise Class

Limited spaces are still available in the January and February sessions of Adult Water Exercise. The six-week class meets on Monday and Wednesday, beginning January 4, 2017, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM at John Muir Middle School Pool. Pre-registration is required, drop-ins are not allowed. Call the Park Office at 715-261-1550 for details.

Adult Figure Skating Class

Registration is now being accepted for *Skating with Charlotte*, adult figure skating lessons beginning Wednesday, January 4, 2017. Lessons run from 10 to 11 AM and students can stay and skate during public skating hours until 1 PM for no additional cost. Call the Park Office at 715-261-1550 for details.

Cross-Country Skiing and Snowshoeing

Nine Mile Forest Recreation Area has 30 kilometers of groomed trails, including 3.5 miles of lighted trails and 3.7 miles of snowshoe trails. Amenities include signed trails, parking, ski chalet, ski and snowshoe rental, restrooms, changing rooms, lounge with fireplace and volunteer ski patrol. Once trails are declared open, the chalet will be staffed 9 AM to 7 PM on Mondays and Fridays; 9 AM to 9 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8 AM to 9 PM on Saturdays and 8 AM to 5 PM on Sundays.