



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: David Gill, Parks and Recreation Director

Re: Outdoor Winter Activities

DATE: November 20, 2020

Recommendation

Review and accept this report.

Information

The department would like to remind our residents how easy and important it is to get outside, enjoy the fresh air and play this winter. This is especially important this year as we battle COVID-19. For information on outdoor winter activities please visit the department's [web site](#).

Outdoor Skating Areas

The department maintains four outdoor skating areas during the winter months. We usually start skating around the New Year and we have been able to have outdoor skating into early March (cold winters!). The skating areas are at the following locations: Rollins Park, White Park Pond, White Park Rink and the pond at Beaver Meadow Golf Course. We do not open the pond until there is at least 5 inches of ice, if the no ice skating signs are posted please do not skate. We would like to remind residents if you see staff flooding the areas or removing snow please stay off the ice until work is complete. As conditions change daily please follow the department's social media pages as they will be updated regularly.



New “Pop Up” Ice Skating Lessons

As conditions allow the department will be holding several “pop up” outside ice skating lessons for all ages this winter. When there is good ice look for information on our web site and social media pages.

Merrimack Lodge at White Park

We are creating plans to have the lodge open limited hours during outdoor skating season. Due to COVID-19 capacity will be reduced, cleaning will be increased and we will not be offering ice skating rentals. More information will be available in late December.

Cross Country Skiing

The Beaver Meadow Golf Course with over 10 kilometers of trails has become the place to cross country ski over the past couple of years. When we have enough snow, the trails will be groomed daily. The department is again holding our youth Bill Koch Ski League at the course and is hoping to plan another community ski race this winter. The trails are open sun up to sun down and are free to use. We ask residents not to run/walk or snowshoe on the groomed trails as it negatively affects skiing conditions and please no dogs.

There are more cross-country ski trails available at Memorial Field Complex and White Farm. These trails are maintained by the Capital Ski and Outing Club and are also free to use.



Bill Koch Ski League

Around three years ago we moved the Bill Koch Ski league from Memorial Field to the Beaver Meadow Golf Course. The cross-country ski program is run by volunteers and often the Concord High Cross-Country Ski Team also helps. The program runs Friday nights in January and February. Program is open to children as young as 4 years old into fifth grade. Pre-registration is required (Program has limited space and often is full)

Winter Hiking

The city has miles and miles of hiking trails that are open all winter. However please dress with proper foot wear and warm clothes as conditions are often very icy and trails snow covered. Please also bring snacks, water and a headlight in case you get lost. For more information on winter hiking and the trails in Concord please visit the trails section of the [cities web site](#).

Parks and Playground Remain Open during winter months

All the city's parks and playgrounds remain open during the winter but we do not remove snow from the playgrounds and playing fields. White Park is known for the outdoor skating opportunities as well as the best sledding hill in Concord.



Cross Country Skiing at The Beav



Pond maintenance at White Park

See Beaver Meadow's cross country ski trail map on next page.

Beaver Meadow Golf Course

Cross Country Ski Trail Map

