**Skate Ski Trail**

**Silver Creek**

1200 Block of Rawson Bridge Road, Cary

A skate ski trail differs from a traditional cross country ski trail by being packed, but not tracked. The trail at Silver Creek is a 1½ mile, relatively flat, trail loop.

**Hike or Ski Solar Lighted Trails**

**November–March**

During Central Standard Time.

Trails close at 9 p.m.

**Pleasant Valley**

13315 Pleasant Valley Rd., Woodstock

This half-mile looped trail located on the east side of the entrance drive is fairly flat terrain, perfect for beginners or shorter outings. Park in the first parking area and sign in.

**Hickory Grove Highlands** (Closed Nov. 1–3 & 8–10)

500 Hickory Nut Grove Lane, Cary

The 1.25 mile looped trail travels through a restored savanna, offering a longer scenic route suitable for intermediate skiers. Visitors should sign in at the trail head.

(Trail etiquette: When there is snow, hikers are asked to walk on the outside of the ski tracks.)

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**Cross-Country Candlelight Ski**

Both **Friday** and **Saturday** evenings from 5–9 p.m.

- **December 13 & 14** – Prairieview, Crystal Lake
- **January 10 & 11** – Coral Woods, Marengo
- **February 7 & 8** – Rush Creek, Harvard

Don’t miss your chance to cross-country ski on trails lit only by candlelight! Skiers of every experience level and age are welcome, but you must bring your own equipment. Gather around the campfire for refreshments after your time out on the trail. Trails will be groomed for skiing if there is 4” of snow or more. No pets please.

**Not enough snow?** Leave the skis at home and enjoy a candlelight hike, some hot refreshments around a campfire and the allure of the winter woods. **Note:** Check Before You Go, cancellations may occur due to weather (if trails are icy/hazardous or the wind chill drops below -20˚) or staff emergencies. Check under Site Advisories at MCCDistrict.org.

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**Find Your Fun…**

Please note:
Sites marked with ** have temporary closures, details on MCCDistrict.org.

Sites marked with ‡ are open for “walk-in” traffic; parking lots will not be open or plowed.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hiking</th>
<th>Cross-Country Skiing (†Skate Skiing)</th>
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/ Ice fishing/ice skating when there is 4” or more of clear ice present. You are responsible for clearing your own snow.
Winter Camping

**December 1–March 31**
**Thomas Woods in Marengo Ridge, Marengo**

Take in the sights and sounds of the quiet, peaceful winter woods and sleep under crisp, star-filled skies. Hike the trails, follow animal tracks, bring your cross country skis or snowshoes and then stoke the campfire as you enjoy a steaming cup of hot chocolate. Reservations are made online with a credit card for your group or exclusive use of the campground; accommodations for 1–100.

Fees: $55 Residents / $90 Non-Residents.
Note: when reserving online, reserve the Marengo Ridge Group Campground; Camping will actually be in the Thomas Woods area.

Ice Fishing

Winter Ice Fishing at Lake Atwood at The Hollows in Cary is fish at your own risk. Open/Closed Signs are not posted. Stay off ice that is less than 4” thick.

Sledding

at Glacial Park

Test out your tubes and sleds on the sledding hill at Glacial Park. The hill is unsupervised and located east of the amphitheater by Wiedrich Barn. It is open when there is at least 4” of snow and is the perfect spot for some great old-fashioned outdoor fun with family or friends. Afterwards stop in the Lost Valley Visitor Center to warm up, look at the exhibits, use the binoculars, or check out the books, puzzles and activity pages in the Sandhill Study.

Snowmobile

The Conservation District has over 17 miles of snowmobile trails in Glacial Park and along the Prairie Trail that connect with numerous County trails. Snowmobile trails are open in the winter after Dec. 10 when there is at least 4” of snowfall on frozen ground; 6” snow on unfrozen ground.

Call the Snowmobile Hotline for county snowmobile trail updates and classes: 815-334-SNOW.

Seize the Day!

The snow has fallen and it’s time to drop everything and enjoy it! Sign up to receive an e-mail or phone call that will let you know when and where we will be in the next 24 hours to enjoy the SNOW!!

Will it be…
...a Cross-Country Ski Lesson at Prairieview?
...a Snowshoe Hike at Pleasant Valley?
...Night Sledding at Glacial Park?

Sound good?
Call (815) 479-5779; or e-mail education@mccdistrict.org.

Glacial Park Snowshoe Rental

Get out and hike in the winter wonderland. Once there is 5” of snow or more stop in the Lost Valley Visitor Center to rent a pair of snowshoes for just $10 for the entire day! We have men’s, women’s, and children sizes available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Snowshoe rental hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (last rental at 2:30 p.m.)

You will be required to leave a drivers’ license and $20 (cash only) deposit.

Christmas Tree Recycling

**Dec. 26 –Jan. 15**

**Drop-off Sites:**
- Glacial Park, Ringwood (off Harts Rd. & Route 31)
- Rush Creek, Harvard (twin oaks parking area—west of pond)

Tinsel and decorations must be removed. If trees are transported in a bag, please remove the bag. Commercial drop-offs are prohibited. Trees are processed into mulch, which will be available free of charge at a later date.