

# Schrier Park Winter Sports Fest

Saturday, January 19, 2013 \* 12 Noon to 3:30 p.m.  
Free Demo and Instruction!

\* Please note: A minimum snow cover of four inches is required for this event. \*

- \* Winter Camping and Snow Shelter Demonstrations
- \* Nordic Fitness Walking & Snowshoe Instruction
- \* Cross Country Ski Instruction and equipment demo
- \* Interpretive Walks by KNC Naturalists
- \* Bittersweet Acres Belgian Horse and Wagon Ride
- \* Refreshments

The *Winter Sports Fest* is a great opportunity to try out Nordic fitness walking, snow-shoe and cross country ski equipment with guidance from Lee's expert instructors. Equipment demos and instruction will be available between 12 noon and 3:30 p.m. Kalamazoo Nature Center staff will be on hand to conduct outdoor adventure walks at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. The Schrier Park pavilion and fireplace will provide a welcome respite. Free refreshments will be provided.

No advance registration is required. Rediscover winter recreation opportunities at Schrier Park!



## Winter Snow Party!

Saturday, February 2, 2013 \* 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. \* Admission: Free

A great opportunity to enjoy time with your family and friends, all while embracing the white wonders of Michigan outdoors. There will be many activities to enjoy such as sledding and a snowman building contest! Build, decorate and bring your own **cardboard sled!** Build and dress up the biggest and **fanciest snowman!** Prizes will be awarded for best in show for both contests as well as the fastest cardboard sled! And for when you need a warm respite from the activities, there will be a bonfire and hot chocolate/coffee available for purchase. The event is hosted by the Portage Youth Advisory Committee and all ages are welcome.



### Program Accessibility

The City of Portage encourages all individuals to become involved in these leisure activities. Reasonable accommodations will be made to allow individuals with special needs the opportunity to participate in Parks and Recreation activities. Please call the Parks, Recreation and Public Services at 329-4522 for more information.



City of Portage

## 2012-2013 Winter Recreation Programs

7719 South Westnedge Avenue • Portage, MI • 269-329-4522

[www.portagemi.gov](http://www.portagemi.gov)

*It's Time for Traditional Holiday and Winter Fun in the Parks!*

### Youth Recreation Scholarships Available!

Through a partnership between the Portage Community Center and the City of Portage, youth age 18 and under, residing in Portage and living in a household meeting established income guidelines, may be eligible for financial assistance with any of the following winter recreation programs:

- \* Downhill ski or snowboard lessons
- \* Cross Country Ski Class
- \* Ice skating lessons at Millennium Park
- \* Ice skating discount card good at Millennium Park

Contact the Portage Community Center at 323-1942 for more information.

### Portage Winter Blast Half Marathon and 5k

Sunday, February 17, 2013

Join us in honoring the City of Portage's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with this inaugural community race and celebration of health and wellness! Enjoy the wintery views as hundreds of fellow runners make their journey through Portage's trail system and along local roads. Organized jointly through the Kalamazoo Area Runners and City of Portage, additional information and registration can be accessed at

[www.portagewinterblast.wordpress.com](http://www.portagewinterblast.wordpress.com)



## Traditional Holiday and Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 1, 2012 \* 7 p.m \* Admission: Free

Bring your family to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season in the City Centre for *Traditional Holiday and Tree Lighting* on Saturday, December 1, 2012 beginning at 7 p.m. Parking is available at the Portage District Library and Portage City Hall. Join in the caroling as you walk along Bicentennial Park Trail to the Celery Flats where children will be awaiting the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus. Hot Cider and Hot Chocolate will be available for \$1 donation per cup. Proceeds from drink sales will be given to local charities. Donated cookies will be served in the Hayloft Theatre at 8 p.m.

## Learn to Downhill Ski or Snowboard at Timber Ridge!

Group downhill beginning ski and snowboard lessons for area residents will be offered at Timber Ridge Ski Resort (7500 23-1/2 Street near Gobles) on three consecutive Sundays beginning January 27, 2013. These lessons are for youth 8 years and older and adults. A \$55 fee includes equipment rental, lift ticket and instruction for three weeks and is payable on January 27, 2013 at Timber Ridge.

Participants must pre-register by submitting \$5 per person or \$10 per family to the Portage Parks Department at 7719 S. Westnedge, Portage, MI 49002. All participant names, ages and a phone number must accompany this payment. Space is limited. Classes start promptly at 2 p.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. Life ticket valid until 8 p.m. on January 27 and February 3 and 10!

## Cross Country Skiing Program

Schrier Park, 850 Osterhout Road between Oakland Drive and South Westnedge Avenue

Participants may bring their own equipment or arrange for rental equipment through Lee's at time of registration

Pre-registration and fees are required by January 24 in person at:

Breakaway Bicycles, 185 Romence Road (324-5555) – or – Lee's Adventure Sports, 311 Kilgore Road (381-7700).

\* Please note: A minimum snow cover of four inches is required for this program. \*

### Youth and Family Cross Country Ski Class

Saturday, January 26, 2013 \* 9 to 11 a.m.

Fee: \$15 per person

Age: 8 years - adult

This is an excellent opportunity for beginners to learn the correct way to cross country ski. This introductory class will emphasize safety, proper use of equipment and how to traverse a variety of winter terrain. Youth under age 9 must be accompanied by an adult.

Minimum class size: 8 students

Maximum class size: 15 students

### Adult Cross Country Ski Class

Saturday, January 26, 2013 \* 1 to 3 p.m.

Fee: \$20 per person

Age: 13 years - adult

This class will teach the diagonal stride with opposite and double poling, moving and stationary turns, uphill-downhill techniques, and how to choose and use various cross-country equipment and clothing. In addition, personal safety and recommendations on local, regional and state ski destinations are covered in this comprehensive introduction to cross-country skiing.

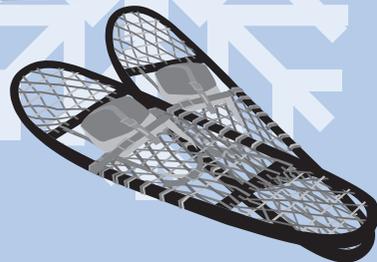
Minimum class size: 8 students

Maximum class size: 20 students

## Snow Shoe Hike

Sunday, February 10, 2013 at Schrier Park \* 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. \* Admission: Free

Join Kalamazoo Nature Center's Lead Interpretive Naturalist, Dan Keto, on this winter snow shoe adventure! Learn about winter migration, hibernation and survival of native animals. Explore nature and discover the unique adaptation of trees as your guide navigates through the Schrier Park forest. New to snow shoeing? Let Lee's Adventure Sports outfit you with a demo pair right on site. Available on a first come, first serve basis.



## The Ice Rink at Millennium Park

280 Romence Road – just west of South Westnedge Avenue

Call 324-9200 for current ice rink information



The Ice Rink at Millennium Park will open for the 13th season on Saturday, December 8, 2012 and remain open through March 3, 2013, weather permitting. This large outdoor refrigerated ice rink features an excellent skating surface, warming house, rest rooms, skate rental, skate sharpening and food concessions.

### Schedule

#### December 8 to December 21

Sunday	Noon to 9 p.m.
Monday through Thursday	3 to 9 p.m.
Friday	3 to 10 p.m.
Saturday	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

#### December 22 to January 5

Daily	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
December 24, 31 & January 1	11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Christmas Day	Closed

#### January 6 to March 3

Sunday	Noon to 9 p.m.
Monday & Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday & Thursday – <i>Discount Days!</i>	3 to 9 p.m.
Friday	3 to 10 p.m.
Saturday	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

#### Winter School Holidays

January 25 & February 22	2 to 10 p.m.
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### Fees

- \* \$4 per day for open skating
- \* \$3 per day for skate rental
- \* \$25 Discount Card for 10 visits
- \* \$3 for skate sharpening
- \* \$.50 for locker rental
- \* *Discount Days!* \$3 skate fee, \$2 rental fee
- \* Groups of 10 or more save money by purchasing the 10-skate discount card for \$25 at the rink during regular hours.



Ice resurfacing occurs from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on weekends and daily December 22 thru January 5. Hockey is prohibited at all times.

## Ice Skating Lessons at Millennium Park Ice Rink

This learn-to-skate program in cooperation with the Greater Kalamazoo Skating Association will cover the early fundamentals of ice skating and allow beginners to discover the joy of outdoor skating. The two-session program will be held at the Ice Rink at Millennium Park. A fee of \$20 per session collected at the first class, includes skate rental and instruction. Pre-registration is required by calling 329-4522. Limit of 12 students maximum, 6 students minimum.

<b>Session 1:</b>	Ages 5 - 11	1/12 and 1/19	9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
<b>Session 2:</b>	Ages 5 - Adult (Family Lesson)	1/12 and 1/19	10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

## Special Events at Millennium Park Ice Rink



### Valentine's Skate Date

Thursday, February 14, 2013  
6 to 8 p.m.

Fee: \$10 per person

A great opportunity for mothers and sons, fathers and daughters and all others to enjoy a skate date at the Ice Rink at Millennium Park. Includes skating, skate rental, a Barrett's Smokehouse dinner, sparkling grape juice and a floral gift. Fees are due by Tuesday, February 12 at the Ice Rink.

### Twilight Skate

Thursday, February 21, 2013 \* 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Fee: \$5 skate and rental package/\$3 skate only

No school for Portage on February 22 means late night fun and prizes at the ice rink on February 21! Join us, under the stars, for the first ever **Twilight Skate at Millennium Park**. Special lighting and upbeat music will compliment this electrifying skating event!