

Raccoon Run

WINTER SPORTS CENTER

Cross-Country Ski & Snowshoe Equipment Rentals & Workshops

at Riverbend Recreation Area
Shelter #3, Big Oaks Activity Area

Winter is a great time to explore

the outdoors. Both snowshoeing and cross-country skiing provide great workouts and are far more affordable and accessible than their downhill cousin. You'll enjoy another full season of outdoor recreation on a variety of Hancock Park District trails.

Trails are groomed only at Riverbend Recreation Area for cross-country skiing. Other trails are available at Oakwoods Nature Preserve and Litzenberg Memorial Woods.

Hours of Operation

Raccoon Run Winter Sports Center is open during good snow conditions on weekends from mid-December through February, 11 AM to 5 PM. Hours of operation may include weekdays during good snow conditions. Call the Hancock Park District at 419-425-7275 for information on snow conditions and hours of operation.

Equipment Rental Rates

Rentals are available on a first come, first serve basis. Skiers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult (18 years or older).

Hourly and daily rental rates are available for a complete outfitting of skis, boots, and poles or snowshoes as follows:

- \$7.00 per hour
- \$20.00 special ski trip option

Refreshments

Warm up and relax inside Shelter #3 and help yourself to hot beverages.



Winter Sports Etiquette

1. Skiers should consider the rights of walkers. No exclusive trails for skiers or walkers. Ask to pass. Walkers stay out of ski tracks.
2. Watch for on-coming skiers.
3. Downhill skiers first.
4. Keep trails open for others.
5. Let others pass.
6. Enjoy the parks, safely.
7. Use common sense and courtesy. Help others in trouble. Pace yourself. Keep ski poles to yourself. Report any problems to HPD staff.

For Your Safety

1. Stay on trails and in open areas.
2. Watch for snowmobiles in outlying areas.
3. Ice on Blanchard River and reservoirs is unsafe for skiing and snowshoeing.
4. Dikes on top of reservoir are off limits to skiers.
5. Don't over do it! Stop to enjoy the scenery if you need to rest.

Learn to Ski Workshops

As part of our Leisure Education Initiative, the Hancock Park District conducts Beginner Cross-country Ski Workshops that cover the basic fundamentals, including proper use of equipment and how to glide, climb hills, stand up on skis, turn around, and get into the rhythm. Workshops are subject to proper snow and weather conditions.

