

Winter Activities in St. Clair County Parks

When most people think of parks, they think summer. However, winter is a beautiful time of year in St. Clair County Parks. The scenery is unmatched, from snow covered pines, babbling brooks and rivers, to art-like ice formations. It is also a time when outdoor activity tends to decline. The solution? A winter park adventure.

There are numerous adventures that are just a short distance away, found in the over 900 acres of parks and trails operated by St. Clair County. These outdoor winter activities are inexpensive ways to shake the winter blues. Most of the activities require nothing more than warm clothing and a good pair of walking boots.

If you are looking to go for a long distance winter walk, or love to in-line cross-country ski, then the Wadhams to Avoca Trail is for you. The twelve mile trail is highlighted by the 640 ft. Mill Creek Trestle, the longest of its kind in the State of Michigan. It offers breathtaking views of the Mill Creek, found 60 ft. below the trestle deck.

A winter hike in St. Clair County Parks can expose you to places of winter beauty, often found a short distance from residential neighborhoods and city centers. You don't have to go up north to get that up north feel. The wooded trails at Woodsong and Columbus County Parks will leave the impression you have traveled up north. The rolling terrain with breathtaking views of river valleys take you to another place. The rolling terrain also creates other outdoor opportunities for snowshoeing and cross country skiing. Woodsong and Columbus County Parks have many miles of trails of different challenge levels, from flat terrain to rolling hills. So no matter your level of skill, there is a place to enjoy these winter activities.

Speaking of hills, one of the best sledding hills in the county is found at Columbus County Park. The lighted sledding hill offers two runs of excitement, a bunny hill for younger children and a larger hill for the more daring.

If it a flat surface you seek, then the ice rinks found in two of the County Parks are for you. Columbus County Park offers a outdoor rink near the new lodge, close to restrooms and a place to warm up on a cold day. Goodells County Park offers a large covered surface ice rink in the Arena building. It is outdoors, but covered, giving the ice a nice smooth surface.

Whatever your age, winter can be a fun, relaxing or invigorating experience in your St. Clair County Parks. For more information or weather conditions related to park activities, call (810) 989-6960 or visit us on Facebook.



Location	❄ Winter Activity ❄					Amenities	
	Ice Skating	Sledding	Hiking	Snow Shoeing	Bird Watching	Warming Station	Restrooms
Columbus County Park						HEAT	
Fort Gratiot County Park							
Fort Gratiot Light Station							
Goodells County Park						HEAT	
Woodsong County Park							
Wadhams to Avoca Trail							