

Winter Fun in Madison Parks

So far December's weather has not be very winter-like. But we all know, this won't last. Winter will arrive! When it does, be prepared by knowing where to go for winter fun. If you aren't sure how to do any of these activities, no problem! Madison Parks has a "Learn to" series that will resume once the weather cooperates! To learn more - be sure to visit the Madison Parks website - click on 'winter' and learn which rinks or ski trails are open.

Madison Parks website: www.cityofmadison.com/parks or better yet, sign up for free email updates at <https://my.cityofmadison.com/>

December 2012



Cross Country Skiing

Enjoy the quiet beauty of winter - cross country skiing. Thirty-two kilometers of groomed trails await skiers in seven Madison park locations: Elver Park, Door Creek Park, South Cherokee Marsh, Owen Conservation Park, Turville Woods, Monona Golf Course and Odana Hills Golf Course. Trail difficulties range from easy to advanced. Don't have your own skis? Rental skis are available at Elver Park (daily) and Odana Golf Course (weekends only).

A ski pass is required to use the trails at Elver and Odana Golf Course. Fees are \$8 for a daily pass and \$30 for an annual pass. These passes are also good on Dane County Park trails. You can purchase the pass at the trailhead or the annual pass on-line at: www.madisonpay.com



Outdoor Skating

A favorite outdoor winter activity is ice skating. What's better than taking the kids out for a day of ice skating - and then enjoying a cup of hot cocoa? Madison Parks has several parks with outdoor ice rinks: Vilas, Goodman, Rennebohm, Elver, Nakoma, Heritage Heights, Tenney, Olbrich, Westmorland, Wexford and Warner. For skate rentals and concessions, visit Tenney, Vilas and Elver Parks. For the winter 2012-2013 season, there is a change west side ice rink locations. There will no longer be an ice rink at Garner Park; instead the ice rink at Rennebohm Park will be re-opened.

Outdoor Ice Skating Lessons! Madison Parks is excited to offer outdoor ice skating lessons at Tenney and Elver Parks this winter (weather permitting). See page 7 for details!

Sledding Hills

What is more exhilarating than zipping down a snow-covered hill, with the wind and snow crystals in your face? Dust off your toboggan or sled and hit the hills!! We have seven parks with sledding hills: Elver, Olbrich, Garner, Orlando Bell, Heistand, Berkley and Warner Parks. Please note that only Elver Park has a warming shelter.

Snowshoeing

Snowshoeing is a fantastic way to experience many of our parks during the winter months. The sport is easy to learn, poses little risk of injury and is a great way to exert energy during the cold winter months. Anyone from young children to senior citizens can easily learn to snowshoe and enjoy your first time out.

Madison Parks Welcomes our Newest Employee

Madison Parks is pleased to welcome our newest employee, Mike Sturm, as a landscape architect.

Sturm is originally from Appleton, WI, but moved to Madison in 1995 to study at the UW-Madison. Before moving to Madison Mike served in the Army from 1988-1991 in Germany. Following his time in the army Mike worked in the construction industry for Oscar J Boldt back in Appleton until he moved to Madison to attend the university.

After graduation in 2001 Mike decided to stay in Madison and took a position with Ken Saiki Design up until his recent move to join Madison Parks!

Mike enjoys spending time outdoors in their neighborhood park on the east side with his wife, Heather, and twin 2 ½ year olds, Avery and Marta. We are excited to welcome Mike and are looking forward to his new projects and ideas!

Winter Activities....continued from page 1

We have various length trails in our parks that can be used as snowshoeing trails in the winter. In addition to the parks listed, snowshoeing is also permitted on Tom George Greenway, which is located between Heritage Prairie and Elvehjem Sanctuary. Snowshoers must stay on the trails. Please note snowshoes are not allowed on cross country ski trails at any time. Madison Parks does not rent snowshoes. Keep in mind that there needs to be sufficient snow to create a base for snowshoeing. The woods generally need more snow to fall because the trees protect the trails.

To keep informed about the Madison Parks Winter Activities, from ice rink openings, to ski trail grooming, please sign up on the My Madison Account email alerts system at <https://my.cityofmadison.com/> or visit <http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks> then click on 'winter.'

Family Hoedown - Do Si Do

"And swing your partner round and round" was the sound radiating from Olin Park Pavilion during the first annual Family Hoedown. The night began with a hayride through the Holiday in Lights at Olin Park followed by a half hour square dancing lesson taught by a professional square dancer. People with no previous square dancing experience had mastered the skill by the end of the night! Children and adults alike enjoyed the festive music and the classic "do-si-do". Thanks to the live caller and everyone dressing in their best Western apparel, the room was transformed into Western dance hall. Needless to say, our first annual Family Hoedown was a great success and we'll see ya'll next year!



Daddy/Daughter Dance

Date: Saturday, February 9, 2013
6-8pm (Doors will open at 5:45pm)

Location: Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Drive, Madison

Website: www.cityofmadison.com/parks/celebrate/DaddyDaughterDance

What is the Daddy/Daughter Dance?

Come enjoy a night full of fun, excitement, and dancing complete with refreshments and music provided by a live DJ. Make sure to get a Daddy/Daughter photograph taken as a keepsake of a wonderful night spent together. Daddies (or other adult loved one), don't miss out on a chance to spend some quality time with your daughter. This event is great for daughters 6-12 years old.

Tickets
\$15 per Daddy/Daughter couple and \$5 for each additional person.

Tickets are available through Warner Park Community Recreation Center. Space is limited so be sure to buy tickets early. Payment can be made by cash, check, or credit card. To purchase tickets by phone, contact (608) 245-3690 ext 0.

Attire
Parents and children are encouraged to wear Semi-formal clothing.

**Holiday Concerts
at Olbrich
Sundays in
December at 2 p.m.**

**Celebrate the
holiday season with
music at Olbrich
Botanical Gardens.
Every Sunday at
2 p.m. throughout
December you can
enjoy a concert at
Olbrich. From violins
to an electronic
orchestra, a horn
ensemble or an a
cappella group,
Olbrich's holiday
concert series offers
a variety of music.**

**A \$1 donation is
suggested for each
concert.**

**December 9
Suzuki Strings /
Youth Violins**

**December 16
Larry Jankowski/
"The Electric
Orchestra"**

**December 23
Madison Horn Club /
Horn Ensemble**

**December 30
Capitol Chordsmen /
A Cappella Group**

Holiday Express Goes Tropical!

December 1-31, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

All aboard for a tropical Holiday Express at Olbrich Botanical Gardens! This year Olbrich's Holiday Flower and Model Train Show features tropical plants, wooden tiki heads, and stained glass art along with large-scale model trains from members of the Wisconsin Garden Railway Society.

Hand-crafted wooden tiki sculptures, from local artist Mark Stauffer, stand watch throughout the room as trains wind through poinsettias and flamingos in a tropical holiday scene. Colorful stained glass panels from artists at the Vinery Stained Glass Studio hang among the lighted tropical trees and shrubs. Many of the stained glass panels and tiki heads are for sale, with a portion of the proceeds benefitting the Gardens. Additionally, The Vinery donated a stained glass panel fashioned in Frank Lloyd Wright's "Sumac" pattern for a raffle that ends December 18. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5 at the Greeter Desk, proceeds benefit the Gardens.

During the show, Olbrich's Photo Depot provides a holiday backdrop of evergreens and poinsettias where visitors can take their own family photo. Relax with family and friends and enjoy coffee, hot chocolate, tea and sugar cookies. Olbrich's Growing Gifts shop will also be open during the show, loaded with garden-related gifts for friends and family.

Olbrich's Holiday Express is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Olbrich will close at 2 p.m. on December 24, and will be closed all day on December 25. Admission to Olbrich's Holiday Express for the general public is \$3 for ages 13 and up and \$2 for children ages 3 to 12. Children 2 and under are free. Admission to the tropical Bolz Conservatory is included. Admission is always free for Olbrich Botanical Society members.





Host Your Own After Hours Event at Vilas and Tenney Park

We are now offering exclusive after-hours use of two of our premiere ice skating locations and shelters: Vilas Park and Tenney Park. These locations provide the picturesque location for a celebration with their lit frozen lagoons and rinks, cozy shelters, and the peacefulness of a winter night.

Tenney Park

The brand new John Wall Family Pavilion in Tenney Park is a great location for your next office party, birthday party or holiday celebration.

Vilas Park

This great central location is situated adjacent to the Henry Vilas Zoo. Where else can you ice skate and hear a lion roar?

To learn more about this exciting opportunity - visit: www.cityofmadison.com/parks or call 608-266-4711

Madison Parks Hayrides

We had bales of fun on all of our Hayrides this fall! From rides around the capitol square to having s'mores by the fire after a ride on a crisp fall evening at Elver Park, this year's Hayrides were a huge success! The majority of our rides were through group reservations that took place on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights. Groups of all ages and sizes enjoyed Hayrides followed by a campfire and s'mores together. Our special events, \$2 a person rides took place at Downtown Madison Family Halloween and at the Fall Festival at Elver Park. The Hayrides at the Downtown Madison Family Halloween event took over 525 children and adults alike dressed in costume for rides around the capitol square! At the Fall Festival riders got to enjoy the warm sunshine and a scenic view of Elver park from the Hayride. The Hikes and Hayride event at Cherokee Marsh and the Holiday Lights hayrides were great. Hundreds of families got to experience our parks in a unique way. The Madison Parks Hayride Program was a wonderful time for all who came out and a great way to celebrate fall with friends and family.



Walk with a Doc Events

Ice Skate with a Doc

Saturday, January 5, 1:00-2:00p.m.

Vilas Park Ice Rink, 1339 Vilas Park Rd

Physician: Patricia K. Kokotailo, MD, MPH is a Professor of Pediatrics, Director of Adolescent Medicine, and Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Faculty Affairs at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Join Dr. Kokotailo for an afternoon on the ice rink! Learn more about how important it is to stay active in the winter months, how ice skating provides cardiovascular and muscular benefits to your body. And most of all – how to have FUN while staying active!

Cross Country Ski with a Doc

Wednesday, January 23, 6:00p.m.

Elver Park, 1250 McKenna Blvd

Physician: Kyle B. Nagle, MD MPH. Departments of Pediatrics and Orthopedics/Rehab, Division of Sports Medicine, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dr. Nagle's interests include the effects of early specialization in sports by kids, athlete development in general, and physical activity promotion and obesity prevention in people of all ages.

Join Dr. Nagle for an invigorating evening of cross-country skiing at Elver Park. He will discuss the benefits of cross training for people of all ages, how it can affect development of young children as well as preventing injury as we all age.

Madison Parks awarded \$18,000 grant from Madison Community Foundation for Oak Savanna Restoration

Madison Parks was awarded an \$18,000 grant from the Madison Community Foundation this fall. The grant allows Madison Parks to partner with Operation Fresh Start's Conservation Crew and engage in ongoing oak savanna restoration work at Cherokee Marsh (north and south units), Turville Point, Edna Taylor and Prairie Ridge conservation parks.



Edna Taylor Park



Turville Point Park

During 2012-13, we plan to complete two phases of restoration: restoring the "woody structure" of the savanna and establishing the native grassy understory. This work will be followed by years of management by Parks staff to stabilize the savanna ecology.

The Madison Community Foundation grant award allows Madison Parks to fund 12 weeks of time with Operation Fresh Start's Conservation Crew (OFS) to assist with intensive work required to remove invasive and over-represented trees and haul away heavy wood debris which has accumulated for decades on the forest floor. Madison Parks Staff will also engage volunteer Friends groups to assist with less intensive tasks, such as preparation for prescribed burns, scattering native seeds, and planting native shrubs.

"Madison Parks is grateful to the Madison Community Foundation for their continued support of Madison's parks," stated Kevin Briski, Madison Parks Superintendent. "Their grant not only allows us to partner with Operation Fresh Start but to also carry out our goals in the conservation parks."

The outcomes of the project will be: 1.) To complete the initial phases needed to

restore 90 acres of oak savanna and recreate 250 acres of prairie/savanna complex in 4 Madison Conservation Parks; 2.) To engage at least 9 youth from OFS in employability skills training and exposure to work in natural resource management; and, 3.) To involve 60 volunteers in 300 total hours of work assisting with restoration activities.

"This project is a perfect synthesis of our objectives. We formerly funded the effort to make Operation Fresh Start a year round program. These young people will be advancing their employable skills while helping to restore some of Dane County's most iconic conservation habitats," said Bob Sorge, Madison Community Foundation Vice President of Strategic Partnerships.

The long-range goals of the Oak Savanna Restoration project is to diversify conservation habitat, beautify Madison's open spaces, and enhance the recreation and educational opportunities within our park system.

Work on these conservation projects will begin mid-December 2012.

- The Madison Parks Conservation Section has 14 different and unique conservation parks. The goal of the conservation park is to restore native plant and animal communities while providing education areas and opportunities for everyone. More information is available online at www.cityofmadison.com/parks/parks/conservation/
- Madison Community Foundation encourages, facilitates and manages long-term philanthropy. Since 1942, the foundation staff has helped people realize their philanthropic goals, allowing them to support charitable interests anywhere in the world. The community foundation also awards grants throughout Dane County build communities. More information is available online at www.madisoncommunityfoundation.org
- The mission of Operation Fresh Start is to: Help participants to become self-sufficient, contributing members of the community by providing them an opportunity to gain employment training, education, independent living skills, and a chance to serve the community; produce quality affordable homes for low- and moderate-income families; contribute to ongoing local conservation efforts; provide technical assistance to communities and organizations who want to implement the Operation Fresh Start program model. For more information, visit: <http://www.operationfreshstart.org>



**Mark your
Calendars!**

**Goodman
Pool will open
in early June
of 2013.**

**Registration
for lessons
and programs
will begin
mid-
February!**

Lots of exciting things happening at Camp Randall Rowing Club in Brittingham Park!!

by Kathy Thompson, CRRC Member

Our Summer "Learn to Row" classes have historically been for boys and girls entering grades 9-12. Last summer what started out as a community outreach program turned into our new Middle School program! With over 25 6-8th graders excited about rowing, many parents asked "now what can they do that classes are over?" We answered this question by designing a fall rowing program for them, complete with their own coaches and separate from the High School program. We had every available space filled for the fall and are looking forward to them returning in the spring. Their excitement is contagious!

Our year-round high school team has seen much growth and success over the last few years. CRRC draws more than 80 athletes from eight area high schools and competes in Regattas throughout the midwest. This year the varsity team again sent two boats to

US Junior Nationals in June. In October they also sent two boats to the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston where more than 9000 athletes from across the country compete over two days. The Junior Men's 4+ placed 7th and the Junior Women's 4+ placed 17th out of over 80 entries in each event- What a great finish for the fall racing season!

CRRC is a 501(c) 3 non-profit club started in 2002 and is based at the historic Brittingham Boathouse on Lake Monona. For information on programs, classes and calendar see our website at camprandallrc.org or call 608-256-3636.



Madison Parks launches a newly updated Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) website

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/eab/>

The City of Madison Forestry Section has updated its Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) website. There are two new features on the website:

- Residents can enter their street address to find out if there is an ash street tree planted in front of their home or within the neighborhood.
- Residents can email the Forestry Section directly to report a suspected EAB sighting. If you don't know what to look for the website has information about the pest and images for you to help you identify the Emerald Ash Borer.

"The newly updated EAB website will help our Madison residents keep updated on this very important issue," stated Madison Parks Superintendent Kevin Briski. "Although EAB has not been confirmed in Dane County, it has been confirmed in nearby counties. Therefore it is important that everyone know and understand how the city plans to combat this insect."

The EAB website is designed for residents to find out more about EAB, what you can do, and frequent updates on the situation in Dane County and Madison. For more information, contact City of Madison Forestry at 608-266-4816.



VISION:
To provide the ideal system of parks, natural resources and recreation opportunities which will enhance the quality of life for everyone.

PARKS DIVISION
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P.O. Box 2987
Madison, WI 53701
(608) 266-4711
www.cityofmadison.com/parks

MADISON MAYOR
Paul Soglin

MADISON PARKS SUPERINTENDENT:
Kevin Briski

MADISON PARK COMMISSIONERS:
Bill Barker
Emanuel
Scarborough
David Wallner
Madelyn Leopold
Nancy Ragland
Alder Mark Clear
Alder Joe Clausius

play
MADISON PARKS

Madison Parks Outdoor Ice Skating

The City of Madison Parks Division is offering group ice skating lessons for all ages at our premier outdoor skating rinks at Tenney Park or Elver Park. These Learn to Skate classes offer a fun way to stay active in the winter months as you improve your confidence and ability on the ice. Our experienced instructors have completed basic skills training through the US Figure Skating Association. The natural beauty of our outdoor ice rinks makes them a unique and stunning setting in which to learn to skate.

Snowplow Sam 1, 2 & 3: Ages 3-6: focusing on fun, comfort and movement on ice. Each class builds on the skills learned from the previous class including falling and getting up properly, standing, marching and gliding to forward and backward swizzles and stops.

Basic 1-3: Ages 6-14: These classes are for older kids learning a variety of basic skating skills, proper techniques and safety. Each class builds on the skills learned from the previous class. Basic 1 teaches proper way to fall and get up safely, skating forward two foot swizzles, snowplow stop. Basic 2 will reinforce skills from Basic 1 and move on to forward and backward glides. Basic 3 will build on the skills from Basic 1 & 2 and will focus on forward to backward turn, continuous forward two foot sways, one foot snowplow stops.

Adult Beginner: For skaters over 14: This class is designed to promote physical fitness and improve balance and coordination while learning proper skating technique. Adult skaters progress at an individual rate while being both challenged and motivated.

Lesson Details

- All classes are 7 weeks long.
- Cost is \$55 per class.
- All classes will be held outdoors at Tenney Park and Elver Park ice rinks.
- Free Skate rental during lessons from Madison Parks.
- Classes at Elver Park start January 2 & 3. (weather permitting)
- Classes at Tenney Park start January 7 & 8. (weather permitting)

For More Information, Schedule and Registration

Visit the Madison Parks Ice Skating Lessons web page for schedule and location details. Registration forms are available for download. Questions? Call (608) 266-4711









<http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/seasonal/winter/IceSkatingLessons.cfm>















































play
MADISON PARKS

KEY TO WINTER FUN IN MADISON PARKS

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/seasonal/winter/>

	Skating Rink	Hockey rink	Equipment Rental	Sledding Hill	Warming House	Concessions	Bathrooms	XC Ski trails (G=groomed, P=permit needed)	Lit at Night	Snowshoe trails	Parking lot
Berkley Park 1730 Browning Rd											
Cherokee Marsh South Unit 5002 School Road											
Cherokee Marsh North Unit 6098 North Sherman Avenue											P
Door Creek Park 7035 Littlemore Drive											P
Edna Taylor Conservation Park 802 Femrite Drive											P
Elvehjem Conservation Park 1202 Painted Post Drive											
Elver Park 1250 McKenna Boulevard			Skate and XC ski					 Permit			P
Garner Park 333 South Rosa Road											P
Goodman Park 1402 Wingra Creek Parkway											P
Heistand Park 4302 Milwaukee Street											P
Heritage Heights Park 701 Meadowlark Drive											
Hillington Green 435 Hillington Way											
Hoyt Park 3902 Regent Street											P
Knollwood Park 334 Westview Lane											

	Skating Rink	Hockey rink	Equipment Rental	Sledding Hill	Warming House	Concessions	Bathrooms	XC Ski trails (G=groomed, P=permit needed)	Lit at Night	Snowshoe trails	Parking lot
Monona Golf Course 111 East Dean Avenue											P
Nakama Park 3801 Cherokee Drive											
Odana Hills Golf Course 4635 Odana Road			XC Ski					 Permit			P
Olbrich Park 3527 Atwood Avenue											P
Olin-Turville Park 1156 Olin-Turville Court											P
Owen Conservation Park 6021 Old Sauk Road											P
Rennebohm Park 115 North Eau Claire Avenue											
Tenney Park 1414 East Johnson Street			Skate								P
Vilas Park 702 South Randall Avenue			Skate								P
Warner Park 2930 North Sherman Avenue											P
Westmorland Park 4114 Tokay Boulevard											
Wexford Park 1201 North Westfield Road											

For up to date conditions and Madison Parks winter activities information, see our website at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/seasonal/winter/>