



#OptOutside all winter long in Michigan's parks, trails and waterways

Don't let winter stop you from camping!

Winter camping is available in a handful of Michigan state parks and recreation areas. Kick off a new family tradition by taking advantage of the colder weather, longer evenings and a little winter adventure. To view parks with winter camping, visit www.michigan.gov/recsearch and type "winter camping" in the search menu.

Alternative winter lodging

While most people consider camping a three-season activity, there are a number of unique options that don't involve sleeping out in the elements. Lodges, cabins, mini-cabins and yurts give winter campers a warm place to spend the night when there aren't a lot of other campers around. To make reservations, visit midnrreservations.com or call 1-800-44PARKS.

Cold play

Warm up to cooler weather by getting outside and enjoying Michigan's great outdoors. State parks and recreation areas offer plenty of opportunities to bundle up and spend time outdoors, including snowshoeing, cross-country skiing on a candle-lit trail, walking the dog or visiting the Muskegon Winter Sports Complex.

In addition to hosting its own operational luge, the Muskegon Winter Sports Complex offers the longest lighted skiing trail in the Midwest, plus plenty of opportunities for skating, snowshoeing, sledding and other winter fun. Ticket information is available at michigan.gov/muskegon.

For other story ideas, contact Maia Turek at 989-225-8573 or turekm@michigan.gov.
www.michigan.gov/dnr

The Recreation Passport may be waived on this year's Black Friday (Nov. 25), but the pass is a tremendous deal year-round.

Michigan's Recreation Passport grants vehicles access to hundreds of outdoor destinations, including 103 state parks and recreation areas, numerous historic sites within parks, 138 rustic state forest campgrounds and parking for hundreds of miles of trails and fee-based boat launches.



An annual pass is available for \$11 for resident vehicles, \$5 for residents motorcycles and \$31 for non-resident vehicles. The majority of passports are sold when residents renew their license plates at the Secretary of State, but a number are sold in the parks and online, too.

The funds generated go back into state parks, facilities and local communities. The revenue helps:

- Fund state parks, recreation areas, state forest campgrounds, non-motorized trailheads and boat launches.
- Provide grants to communities to improve neighborhood parks.
- Support historic sites within state parks.

www.michigan.gov/RecreationPassport

Free Fishing Weekend

Grab a pole and take advantage of the first of two Free Fishing Weekends Feb. 18-19. Twice a year, residents and non-residents have the opportunity to enjoy two back-to-back days of FREE fishing! All fishing license fees will be waived. Fishing regulations still apply.

www.michigan.gov/FreeFishing