

# ECOS SKI & SNOWSHOE TRIPS FOR WINTER 2015

**First outing January 6 Conditions Permitting**

**Please keep this list for reference throughout the ski season.**

We will choose from this list on the basis of what we can learn about ski conditions each week.

\*Trip leaders may choose alternate locations not listed as needed. **Please call ECOS at 370-4125 after 3:00 each Monday afternoon for the Tuesday ski trip information.** We've included information about the difficulty level of each trip. In some cases we can divide into smaller groups to accommodate the needs of participants. ECOS participants **MUST** stay with the group. Bring your own water & snack.

To be included on our ski/snowshoe email list contact ECOS at info@ecosny.org

All trips will meet to carpool at **ONE** of the following locations, see area description for which location will be used:

- (1) Glenville Queen Diner at Rte. 50 & Glenridge Road. Park on Route 50 side of Target parking lot near the diner.
- (2) Home Depot Parking at Crosstown (Rte. 7) and Watt St. across Rte 7 from Crosstown Plaza; park in first area off Watt St.
- (3) Office Max on Campbell Rd across from Rotterdam Square Mall; park in lot to right of store.
- (4) Park and Ride off Herbert Dr. behind the VW dealer, which is between the Latham Circle and the Northway. Turn on Herbert as if going to Penny's in Mall and then take first right which is opposite the Mall entrance.
- (5) Park & Ride on Rte. 20 a quarter mile east of the Duanesburg exit 24 of I-88.

The following directions are given from the carpool location; you may choose an alternate route at your convenience and meet us at the trailhead. Please note that meeting times vary due to driving distance to trailhead. We plan to arrive at the trailhead at about 9:30. A small donation to carpool drivers would be greatly appreciated.

**Albany Pine Bush Madison Avenue Pinelands** Mixed terrain. Meet at 9:00 at carpool #2. From the parking lot turn right toward Albany St. Follow Albany St about 5 mi., turn right onto Rte. 155 (New Karner Rd). Turn right at the water tower at the intersection of Rte. 155 and Madison Avenue Extension (note: Washington Ave. Ext. on left of Rt. 155). Park at the end of this road at the trailhead.

**Albany Pine Bush Karner Barrens East** Mixed terrain. Meet at 9:00 at carpool #2. From the parking lot turn right toward Albany St.; turn right onto Rte. 155 (New Karner Road). Park behind the Pine Bush Discovery Center on the left (east) side of Rte. 155

**Charleston State Forest (Montgomery County)** Mixed terrain. Meet at 8:45 at carpool #5; turn left out of parking lot to Rte. 20, follow Rte. 20 for about 10+ mi. At Sloansville turn right onto Rte. 30A; go about 6 miles north; look for State Forest parking on right.

**Clapper Hollow (Schoharie County)** Mixed terrain. Meet at 8:30 at carpool #5. Take Rte. I-88 south to Richmondville Exit 20; take NY Rte. 10 south to Baird Corners, about 5 miles south of Summit; continue on Rte. 10 about one mile beyond County Road 64 turn right onto Moxley Street Rd. (Rte. 15) and immediately right again onto Clapper Hollow Rd; go one mile and look for parking on the right.

**Dyken Pond (Rensselaer County) Dyken Pond Environmental Education Center** Mixed terrain. Meet at 8:30 at carpool #4. From the parking lot, turn left onto Troy-Schenectady Rd. Turn right (north) at Northway. Follow Rte. 7 (next exit off Northway) going east into Troy. From Troy, take Rte. 2 east about 7 miles to Cropseyville. At the Dyken Pond sign on the right, turn onto Blue Factory Road (Rte 79). In 2 miles turn left onto Madonna Lake Rd. Proceed 2.2 miles, then turn right on Dyken Pond Road. Follow this narrow road 2.2 miles to the Center. Parking is on the right, opposite the information board.

**Featherstonhaugh State Forest (Schenectady County)** Flat or mixed terrain. Meet at 9:00 at carpool #3; turn left onto Campbell (Rte.337); turn left onto Putnam Road; turn right onto Mariaville Rd. at blinking light (Rte. 159); continue west 5.3 miles to Lake Rd.; go left on Lake Rd. about 3 miles to Hardin Rd.; turn right on Hardin and park along side of road.; ski or walk along road to trail access on either side, just below brow of hill.

**Grafton Lakes State Park** Mixed terrain. Meet at 8:30 at carpool #4. From the parking lot, turn left onto Troy-Schenectady Rd. Turn right (north) at Northway. Follow Rte. 7 (next exit off Northway) going east to Troy. Go through Troy and 2 mi. beyond WalMart take right on Rte. 278 (church on corner) to Rte 2, turn left onto Rte. 2 and go east about 9 miles; use winter entrance ½ mile past summer entrance.

**Henning Preserve** Mixed terrain. Meet at 8:45 at carpool #1. From Target, turn right to go north on Rte 50 through Burnt Hills, Left on Middleline Road to Rte 29, Left on 29 to East Galway, Right on Antioch Road, Right on Wileytown Road, left on Centerline Road to Parking area and trailheads.

**Indian Meadows** Mostly easy, with a couple difficult spots. Meet at 9:15 at carpool #1. Turn right onto Rte 50 and almost immediately left onto Van Buren. Go to Swaggettown and take a right; go 0.6 miles to Droms Rd, and turn right; drive to the Park sign 0.6 mile on right.

**Lapland Lake GROOMED, FEE.** Choice of all levels; groomed. Meet at 8:45 at carpool #1. The Park & Ride near the Information Center at the intersection of Rte. 29 and 30 (new traffic circle) will be a secondary meeting point. We should pull in there about 9:15 and then continue north on Rte.30 past Sacandaga Lake to left turn onto Benson Road; watch for Lapland Lake sign and turn right to ski area.

**Mohawk River State Park (formerly Schenectady Museum Preserve)** Choice of terrain: flat to challenging. Meet at 9:30 at trailhead parking lot. Coming from the intersection of River Rd. and Balltown in Niskayuna, take River Rd. east about 3 miles to Whitmyer Dr. on left and follow to the end. **Or you can approach from the** intersection of Union Street and Rosendale Road; turn left onto Rosendale and follow it about a mile and a half to left turn onto River Rd; go west about 2/3 mile; turn right onto Whitmyer Dr. Park in the lot at the end of Whitmyer near the Preserve sign.

**Moreau Lake State Park** Choice: rolling or challenging terrain. Meet at 8:30 at carpool #1. Take Rte. 50 north roughly a dozen miles and turn right onto Brookline Rd.; about half a mile brings you to a right onto Rte. 67; follow this to the Northway; go north to Exit 17S; follow the signs into the park.

**Partridge Run (Albany County)** Mixed terrain. Meet at 8:30 at carpool #2. Turn left onto Rte. 7; take 890 east (toward Thruway) to exit 9B which leads to Rte. 146; turn left on Rte. 146; turn left following Rte. 20 & 146; in ¾ mile Rte. 146 turns right toward Altamont; go through Altamont to Rte. 156; take 156 to right turn onto Rte. 443; turn left on County Rte. 1; from here you can either take Rte. 13 (Sickle Hill Rd.) directly up to Partridge Run; or you can go on to Rte. 6, which is less steep; it will circle around to Rte. 13 and to the same parking area.

**Pineridge Cross Country Ski Area (Rensselaer County) – GROMMED, FEE.** Mixed terrain; groomed. Meet at 8:30 at carpool #4. From the parking lot, turn left onto Troy-Schenectady Rd. Turn right (north) at Northway. Follow Rte. 7 (next exit off Northway) going east into Troy. Go over the Collar City bridge and make your first right onto 8th St. Continue on 8th St for a little less than 1 mile and take a left onto Route 2 (Ferry St). Go a little more than 1/2 mile on Rt 2 and bear right onto Pawling Avenue (Route 66) for about 4 miles until it merges with Rt 355. Bear left on Rt 355. Continue on 355 East to Poestenkill to the four way stop and continue straight on Plank Road (County Route 40). Go 1.6 miles on Plank Road (CR 40) and turn left onto Blue Factory Rd (County Route 79) for .8 miles. Turn right onto Columbia Hill Rd (CR 44), which becomes Plank Road (again) after 1.5 miles. Go about 2 miles and Pineridge parking lot will be on your left. (There are signs for Pineridge starting at Plank Road)

**Prospect Mountain Ski Center (Vermont) GROOMED, FEE.** Mixed terrain; groomed. Follow directions for Woodford on page 4, but don't pass the Prospect Mountain Ski area!

**Rockwood State Forest (Fulton County)** Mixed Terrain. Meet at 8:30 at carpool #3. Take Rte 5 west through Amsterdam, continuing on Rte 5 for about 15 miles, passing the intersection within Amsterdam where 67 joins 5. West of Amsterdam, take a right onto Rte 67. Continue about 8 miles into Johnstown, where you take Rte. 29 west (left turn); continue west about 7 miles. Shortly beyond the junction of Rte. 10A, look for County Forest parking on the left.

**Sanders Preserve** Challenging terrain. Meet at 9:00 at carpool #1. Turn right onto Rte. 50 and immediately left onto Van Buren, right onto Swaggertown, left onto Bolt Rd; right onto Rte. 147, and almost immediately left onto Church Rd. which becomes Sanders when you cross Ridge Rd. Continue on Sanders Road to parking on the left at preserve sign.

**Saratoga Battlefield** Rolling terrain. Visit Museum in National Park Visitor Center. Meet at 8:30 at carpool #1. Take Rte. 50 north roughly a dozen miles and turn right onto Brookline Rd.; about half a mile brings you to a right onto Rte. 67; follow this to the Northway; crossing Northway, go straight ahead on Dunning St. to County Rte. 108 (Plains Road); turn right on 9P and follow the lake shore around to right turn on Rte. 423 (Battlefield Road); continue about 4 miles; take a left on Rte. 32 and proceed to the Battlefield which is clearly marked.

**Saratoga Spa State Park** Flat to rolling terrain, groomed. Meet at 8:45 at carpool #1. Go north on Rte. 50 through Ballston Spa; turn right at first traffic light after SPAC; take left fork (Avenue of the Pines), obey speed limit; close to Rte. 9 watch for warming hut sign; turn right into short road to parking lot near warming hut. Hot chocolate will be available after skiing, and you may bring a snack to share. We are hoping to do this as our first ski outing on the first Tuesday in January. Call ECOS to verify.

**Schenectady Municipal Golf Course** Choice of flat or mixed. Meet at Golf Course parking lot. From Rte. 7 turn east on Golf Rd. and then left on Oregon to parking lot on right near clubhouse. Meet at 9:30.

**Thacher State Park** Mixed terrain. Meet at 8:45 at carpool #2. Turn left onto Rte. 7; take 890 east (toward Thruway) to exit 9B which leads to Rte. 146; turn left on Rte. 146; turn left following Rte. 20 & 146; in ¾ mile Rte. 146 turns right toward Altamont; go through Altamont to Rte. 156; follow directions below to final destination.  
**Thacher #1 Hopfield Winter Use Area** continue up the hill to turn left onto Rte. 157; left onto Rte. 256 (obey speed limit), then another left onto Rte. 157. Continue a couple of miles to the winter use area and warming hut at the Hop Field area.

**Thacher #2 Paint Mine Loop** continue up the hill to turn left onto Rte. 157; left onto Rte. 256 (obey speed limit), then another left onto Rte. 157. Park in the lot at Paint Mine Pavilion.

**Thacher #3 Long Path Trail** continue up the hill to turn left onto Rte. 157; left onto Rte. 256 (obey speed limit), then another left onto Rte. 157. park in the lot near the swimming pool/administration building.

**Tree Haven (Bob's Trees) GROOMED, FEE.** Mixed terrain; groomed. Meet at 8:45 at carpool #1. Turn right onto Rte. 50 and immediately left onto Van Buren, right onto Swaggertown and left onto Bolt Rd. Turn right onto Rte. 147 (Sacandaga Road); continue to village of Galway; turn left on Rte. 45. Bob's Trees is on the right about 3.5 miles from the traffic light.

**Vischer Ferry Preserve** Meet at 9:00 at Carpool #2 From Home Depot parking, turn right onto Rte. 7 (the Crosstown), go east to Balltown; turn left (north) on Balltown Rd. Continue across Rexford Bridge. Turn east at Stewart's onto Riverview Rd. At village of Fischer Ferry, bear right at the firehouse and continue to follow Riverview Rd. Look for parking area near Preserve sign at junction with Van Vranken Rd.

**Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park** Mixed terrain, groomed. Meet at 8:30 at carpool #1. Take Rte. 50 north roughly a dozen miles and turn right onto Brookline Rd.; about half a mile brings you to a right onto Rte. 67; follow this to the Northway; take Northway north, continuing past Saratoga to exit 16. Turn right onto Ballard Road, and another quick right onto Edie Road. At about a mile, turn left onto Scout Road. Look for the Preserve parking on the left.

**Woodford State Park (Vermont)** Mixed terrain. Meet at 8:00 at carpool #4. From the parking lot, turn left onto Troy-Schenectady Rd. Turn right (north) at Northway. Follow Rte. 7 (next exit off Northway) going east to Troy. Follow Rte. 7 east all the way to Vermont, where it becomes VT Rte. 9. Continue east through Bennington on Rte 9, and up the mountain. Pass the Prospect Mountain Ski area, and continue a little over 3 miles past the Park gate on the right. A large parking area is on the left, about ¼ mile further.

**Woodlawn Preserve** Flat or mixed terrain. Meet at 9:00 at carpool #2. From parking lot turn right toward Albany St. Go east a little more than a mile to Gifford Rd. Turn right on Gifford and follow it all the way to the end. There is space to park on the left.

**Woods Hollow** Meet at 8:45 at carpool #1. Take Rt. 50 north through the village of Ballston Spa. Beyond the village, turn left on Northline Rd. (Rte. 45). Go west about 3/8 mile; watch for the preserve sign at the main Preserve entrance on the right, a short distance before the intersection with Rowland St.

#### **PLEASE KEEP THIS LIST.**

Since we are not scheduling specific dates for each location, you will need to refer to this list for times and directions each week. Our trips will be every Tuesday, conditions permitting, through January, February and March. Each week we will make a selection from this list, depending on where we find the best conditions.

We hope to follow the tradition of starting our season in January at Saratoga Spa State Park. We'll meet about 9:30 at the warming hut and break into groups according to how fast you like to ski. At the end of the morning we'll meet back at the warming hut for hot chocolate and snacks. We will provide the hot chocolate; it's up to everyone else to bring something to share.

In the event that there's not enough snow at Saratoga, we'll try to schedule our first outing at one of our other locations. Since most of our locations don't include a warming hut, we'll then have to plan Saratoga at another date. **So be sure you call ECOS the day before every trip.** Most of our trips are half day trips. Our last trip, at the end of March, will be a full day either in the Adirondacks or some other relatively distant location where snow can still be found. Our March newsletter will include full details.

**For more information contact**  
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