

Where to go when you want to hit the snow

A quick glance out your window isn't going to tell you everything you want to know about ski conditions in Northeast Ohio. And if you're planning a ski weekend, you'll certainly want to know in advance just what the snow conditions are.

So here's a brief directory of ski spots as near by as Brandywine and Boston Mills in the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area and as far as Lake Placid, N.Y., site of the 1980 Winter Olympics.

Ohio

Alpine Valley — 1-285-2211 (information) and 1-729-9775 (snow conditions); 10 miles east of Interstate 271 on Rt. 322 in Geauga County; six slopes and trails, extensive beginners area, good intermediate skiing; double chair, T-bar, J-bar, rope tows; ski school; night skiing; cross country course, lessons and rentals; M-F 10 a.m.-11 p.m., Tu-W-Th 10 a.m.-10:30 p.m., F 9 a.m.-10:30 p.m., Sa 9 a.m.-10:30 p.m.

Boston Mills — 657-2334 from Akron, 467-2242 from Cleveland; Peninsula at Riverview and Boston Mills roads north of Turnpike between Rts. 8 and 21; wide variety of terrain, from extensive beginners area to steep slope; triple and double chairs, two T-bars, five electric rope tows; ski school; night skiing; extensive rentals; M-F 10 a.m.-11 p.m., weekends and holidays 8 a.m.-11 p.m.

Brandywine — 1-467-8197 (snow conditions) and 1-467-8198 (information); Sagamore Hills off Highland Road between Riverview and Brandywine roads north of Turnpike between Rts. 8 and 21; 10 separate slopes, practice area, extensive beginners areas and programs, trails, seven separate lifts including quadruple, triple and double chairs, T-bars, double electric rope tow; ski school; night skiing; M-F 10 a.m.-11 p.m., weekends and holidays 8 a.m.-11 p.m.

Clear Fork, Butler — 419-322-2464 (snow conditions) and 419-884-2600 (information); 15 miles south-

east of Mansfield, Interstate 71 to exit 13, Rt. 13 to Belleville and Rt. 97 to Butler; wide slopes, trails with runs to 3,700 feet, isolated beginners area; two double chair lifts, two J-bars, T-bar, rope tows, ski school; night skiing; M-F 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Tu-F 10 a.m.-10 p.m., weekend and holidays 9 a.m.-10 p.m.

Snow Trails, Mansfield — 419-522-7283 or 419-756-3185; Interstate 71 to exit 13, then Possum Run Road to area; large open slopes and trails, extensive beginners area; triple and double chair lifts, two T-bars, rope tows; ski school; night skiing; M-Th 10 a.m.-11 p.m., F 9 a.m.-10:30 p.m., weekends and holidays 9 a.m.-10 p.m.

Mad River Mountain, Valley High — 513-599-1015; Rt. 33, six miles east of Bellefontaine; open slopes and several long trails, advanced and intermediate trails up to a half mile; two double chair lifts, T-bar, three electric rope tows; night ski school; night skiing; motel on site, weekdays 10 a.m.-10 p.m., weekends and holidays 9:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

Michigan

Boyer Highlands, Harbor Springs — 616-526-2171; four miles north-east of Harbor Springs off M-131; 17 ski runs providing a wide variety of slopes and trails with vertical drop of 625 feet; two quadruple, four triple chair lifts, T-bar, rope tows; ski school; rentals; 168-room lodge, heated outdoor pool, saunas, skating rink, cross country skiing.

Boyer Mountain, Boyne Falls — 616-549-2441; Boyne Falls on US-131, south of Petoskey; 14 slopes and trails with runs to 5,000 feet and vertical drop of 570 feet; three quadruple and five double chair lifts, rope tows; ski school; rentals; 250-room main lodge, skating rink, heated swimming pool, sleigh rides, 4,200-foot paved airstrip, cross country skiing.

SkiLine — 517-275-5445; junction of Rts. 27 and 76 between Grayling and Roscommon; six slopes and trails to one-half mile, 220 foot vertical drop; double chair, rope tows; cross country skiing; night skiing.



Crystal Mountain, Thompsonville — 616-438-6000; six miles east of US-31 on M-115 near Thompsonville; 18 ski runs suited to all skiers; half-mile intermediate run is one of Michigan's most popular; two double chair lifts, Pomalift, six rope tows; ski school; main lodge and eight chalets accommodate 175, ice skating, sleigh rides, cross country skiing.

Mt. Holly — 313-634-8269; 18 miles north of Pontiac on South Dixie Highway; eight runs to 1,200 feet with vertical drop of 235 feet; three double chair lifts, T-bars, rope tows; ski school; night skiing.

Nah's Neb, Harbor Springs — 616-526-2131 or 526-2132; five miles northeast of Harbor Springs via US-31 and M-131; 13 ski runs and trails to 5,200 feet with vertical of 420 feet; four double chair lifts, Poma, two rope tows; beginners area, ski school; cross country skiing and equipment; lodge accommodates 75, swimming pool.

Pine Neb, Pontiac — 313-394-0000; seven miles north of Pontiac off Interstate 75; nine slopes and runs to 1,800 feet with vertical of 200 feet; two double chair lifts, seven rope tows; night skiing.

Shanty Creek, Bellaire — 616-533-8621; two miles south of Bellaire off M-88; 15 ski runs for all skiing abilities to 3,000 feet with 300 foot vertical drop; triple and

two double chair lifts, T-bar, rope tow; ski school; cross country skiing, ice skating, sleigh rides, heated pool, lodge accommodates 300.

Sugar Loaf Village, Cedar — 616-228-5461; 18 miles northwest of Traverse City; 20 ski runs from beginner to expert, longest run 4,500 feet with vertical of 600 feet; five double chairs, J-bar; ski school; rentals; cross country trails; indoor tennis courts, heated pool, accommodations for 575, 4,300 foot runway for private planes.

Thunder Mountain Boyne Falls — 616-549-2441; five miles northeast of Boyne Falls on Thumb Lake Road; 12 ski slopes to 3,300 feet with vertical of 410 feet; quadruple and double chair lifts, electric rope tow; rentals; ski school.

Walloon Hills, Boyne Falls — 616-549-2441; four miles east of Walloon Lake junction of US-131 and M-75; 10 slopes and trails to 4,600 feet with vertical of 410 feet; quadruple chair lift, Pomalift, two rope tows; ski school; cross country trails.

New York

Big Tupper — 518-359-3650; Rt. 30, three miles south of Tupper Lake; nine runs to one mile with 800-foot vertical; double chair, T-bar; ski school; Monday, Wednesday and Friday night skiing.

Allegheny State Park, Red House — 716-354-2721; Rt. 17 west of Salamanca; six trails, four slopes, 30 and 50-meter ski jumps; Poma, three rope tows, ski school.

Bristol Mountain — 716-374-6422; Rt. 64, 12 miles southeast of Canandaigua; four open slopes, expert run to 4,000 feet, intermediate run to 6,400 feet, two beginners runs to 8,200 feet, vertical of 1,850 feet; two double chair lifts, two T-bars, J-bar; ski school; night skiing.

Cockaigne, Cherry Creek — 716-267-3223; Interstate 90 to exit 59, then south on Rt. 46 to Sinclairville and follow signs to area; wide variety of slopes and trails with 430 foot vertical; two double chairs, J-bar; ski school; night skiing.

Glenwood Acres — 716-941-9397; New York Thruway exit 57 to Hamburg, Rt. 219 south to Boston, then Boston-Colden Road to Colden and south on Rt. 240; seven runs up to a mile with vertical of 567 feet; ski jump; double chair, two T-bars, three rope tows; ski school; night skiing.

Greek Peak — 607-835-6111; Rt. 90, seven miles south of Cortland; 16 slopes and trails with runs up to two miles and vertical of 750 feet; three double chair lifts, two T-bars, Poma; ski school.

Holiday Valley — 716-699-2644; Rt. 219, Ellicottville; 16 runs to 5,300 feet with vertical of 760 feet, eight open slopes; two double chair lifts, three T-bars, rope tows; ski school; Friday and Saturday night skiing.

Klondike Bridge, Colden — 716-392-4961; New York Thruway exit 57 to Hamburg, Rt. 219 south to Boston, then Boston-Colden Road to Colden, then south on 240 to Glenwood; 10 slopes and trails with runs to 3,700 feet and vertical of 440 feet; two double chair lifts, T-bars, rope tows; ski school; night skiing.

Peek 'N Peak, Findlay Lake — 716-355-4141; Interstate 90 exit nine, Rt. 430 to Findlay Lake, Rt. 426 south to area; six slopes, trails to 4,100 feet with vertical of 340 feet; three double chair lifts, two

T-bars, rope tows; ski school; night skiing.

Ski Wing, Allegheny — 716-372-2288; Rt. 17, seven miles northwest of Olean; wide variety of slopes and trails to 1½ miles and vertical of 500 feet; double chair, two T-bars, rope tows; ski school; night skiing; closed Sunday night and Monday.

Whitetail Mountain — 518-946-2223; site of the 1980 Winter Olympics; Rt. 86 between Lake Placid and Wilmington; 21 slopes and trails to 13,200 feet with vertical of 3,112; four double chairs, T-bar, J-bar; ski school.

Pennsylvania

Hidden Valley, Mt. Pleasant — 814-465-6014 and 445-8575; Rt. 31, eight miles east of Donegal turnpike interchange; open slopes, trails with runs to one-half mile, vertical of 400 feet; one double chair, four T-bars, rope tows; ski school; night skiing Monday through Saturday.

Laurel Mountain — 412-238-6622; Rt. 30, 12 miles east of Ligonier; 16 slopes, trails with runs to 4,400 feet, vertical of 870 feet; one double chair, T-bar, two Pomas, rope tows; ski school; night skiing.

Seven Springs, Champion — 814-352-7777; 10 miles from Donegal turnpike interchange, Rt. 31 to Rt. 711 to Champion; 12 runs to 2,400 feet, vertical of 960 feet; four chair lifts, two Poma, six rope tows; ski school; night skiing.

Peek 'N Mountain, Youngville — 814-563-9210; Rt. 6 at Youngville, 10 miles west of Warren, Pa.; six slopes, trails; T-bar, rope tows; ski school; night skiing.

Bear Rocks, Acme — 412-542-6348; four miles west of Donegal turnpike interchange on Rt. 31; variety of slopes and trails with vertical of 400 feet; double chair lift, rope tows; ski school; Tuesday through Saturday night skiing.

Glue Knob, Bedford — 814-238-5111; 21 miles north of turnpike interchange 11; 13 open slopes, trails with 1,000-foot vertical; two double chairs, Poma, J-Bar; ski school; Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night skiing.