

Wachusett Uphill Trail Use Policy

Use of Ski Slopes prior to operation

Please be advised that, under Massachusetts law, any person using any of the facilities of a ski area is considered a skier. You have duties under Massachusetts law, including, controlling your speed and course at all times and maintaining a proper outlook. Using a ski area for any purpose can be HAZARDOUS and you assume all risks.

WARNING

Under Massachusetts law, a skier assumes the risk of any injury to person or property resulting from any of the inherent dangers and risks of skiing and may not recover from any ski area operator for any injury resulting from any of the inherent dangers and risk of skiing including: Changing weather condition, existing and changing snow conditions; bare spots; rocks; stumps; trees; collision with natural objects, man-made objects or other skiers; variations in terrain; and the failure of skiers to ski within their own abilities.

Uphill Access –Prior to Lifts Operation

The ski area begins each day with a variety of operational and maintenance activities which include and are not limited to snowmaking, grooming, snowmobile transport etc. The following rules are in place effect for the winter season and are subject to change at any time.

- Please use common sense, you are being allowed to ski without paying on trails that require snowmaking, grooming and maintenance. If you notice that work is under way on a trail, simply choose one that has no activity.
- Uphill traffic is limited to specific trails: Sundowner on the Monadnock Area, Conifer Connection on Polar Express Area. and Ralph's Run on Minuteman Express Area.
- As soon as the lifts begin operation, which may sometimes occur as early as 20 minutes before the posted operating time, without any advance notice -- skimmers and cross country skiers must cease uphill travel and transition to downhill skiing.
- All uphill skiers and hikers must have headlamps turned on until 20 minutes before sunrise.
- Skimmers and Cross Country skiers may descend whichever trails will be open to the public that morning except for Smith-Walton.
- Trails that will be closed to the public once the lifts operate are still considered closed before the lifts operate. Please be aware that 'winching' operations take place frequently on the Smith-Walton Trail and therefore should be avoided.

- All uphill skiers/boarders/snowshoers shall go up towards the left side of the trail. (You must therefore have the equipment and skill necessary to head straight up the left side of the trail -- zigzagging/switch backing across the trail is prohibited.)
- The snowmobiles use the RIGHT SIDE while traveling up and use the same route (Left side looking downhill) on descent. Skiers will be on the right side of the snowmobiles. They may vary from that so PLEASE be watching and listening for them.
- Dogs may, on occasion, be allowed on the slopes prior to operation. Of course it goes without saying that you must clean up after your dog. Written permission must be received through the main administrative office.

Using the slopes for any sort of mountaineering training, or other forms of independent instruction or any other type of commercial activity, is prohibited unless prior permission is received from management.