

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 the 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 for the winter season and are subject to change at any point.

- 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 another approved route.
- 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 – skippers and cross country skiers must cease uphill travel and transition to downhill skiing.
- Please be aware the ‘winching’ operations take place frequently on Smith-Walton Trail and therefore must never be skied on
- All uphill skiers shall go up looker’s left, skiers right. 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 should be avoided.
- The snowmobiles use the RIGHT SIDE while traveling up and use the same route (left side looking downhill) on descent. They may vary from that so PLEASE be watching and listening for them.
- On powder days skiers cannot use 10th Mountain Trail, nor Smith Walton. The powder is to be saved for the folks riding the chairlift. Please stay on Conifer Connection.
- Dogs must be on at least a 6’ leash at all times. Of course, it goes without saying that you must clean up after your dog. If this rule is not followed your dog will be told to stay home.
- Wachusett has no obligation to allow skiers to use the ski trails prior to operation. This is a privilege that is not allowed at some resorts. Please do not take advantage of the generous policy. Persons that don’t follow rules could be ‘disinvited’ from the Ski Area.
- If abuse is rampant this entire policy could be revisited, and uphill skiing could be dramatically altered.

Travel Routes

- Sundowner and Indian Summer on the Monadnock Area
- Conifer Connection on the Polar Express Area
- Ralph’s Run on the Minuteman Express Area

Each year the number of skippers continues to grow. With the increased usage comes additional issues. Our groomer operators have noticed a decline in the civility and respect for other skiers and mountain staff. We have reports of skippers skiers skiing way too close to the snowcats and skiing in the operator’s blind spots. Please treat the mountain staff with the respect they deserve.

Thank you for your cooperation.