

NEW: EAGLE RIVER, WISCONSIN SNOW REPORT, as of February 10, 2014.

(For lovers of snowmobiling, X-C skiing, and snowshoeing). Information on EACH ACTIVITY - - snowmobiling, X-C skiing and snowshoeing - - is discussed in detail. In addition Eagle River winter activities and special events are listed at the end of the report.

\*EAGLE RIVER, WISCONSIN, Snowmobile Capital of the World.®.

Here is some important and detailed information about the trails and snowmobile opportunities in the Eagle River area:

The Eagle River trails are in excellent riding condition - -and very smooth.

The snow is very deep everywhere. The base is 10-24 inches of hard frozen snow with lots of loose snow on top. There may be some snirting at road crossings. Also snirt has been noticed on the trails that run right next to the roads. As temperatures rise the liquid salt that floated onto the trails when the roads were treated started to do its job.

At the road crossings in some areas the snow banks are really high. Do double duty on looking for vehicles on the roads. You might want to literally stand up and look left and right.

Sledding opportunities in the Eagle River area are the best they've been in recent memory. Our groomers are out consistently. When you ride give the groomers a wide berth. They are really big, but just like we can't go off the trail into the powder, they can't either. So when you spot them slow up, and stay a distance away. The groomer will pull over and stop to let you by. Then give them a thumb's up. They are grooming when most of us are sleeping, getting in between 3-6 a.m.

There are new to the sport riders who do not realize how important it is to stay on the right side especially with the increased sledding we're experiencing.

The Catfish Lake Loop and Eagle Lake Trail are marked with orange barrels.

Stay by the barrels. Don't ride anywhere on a lake that is not marked as a trail. Please - - no off trail lake riding.

A couple of suggestions for a great ride:

Take loops that take you into the woods. Trail 10E to the Three Lake Trails.

We call it the Kimble Creek Run. Takes you through the woods and you come out just outside Three Lakes. Run through town and pick up Trail 13 the grade back to Eagle River. 50-60 mile run. Or head south on Trail 13 to Three Lakes trails and make your way south to Monico and over to Rhineland. Looping around from the south heading north to Eagle River. Or head north out of Eagle River on Trail 13. Pick up Trail 17 just past the Derby Track. Take that up to Phelps and loop around. Return using the Conover trails or head farther west onto Trails 6 or 8.

Another great ride is leaving from Catfish Lake Loop trail. Crossed Catfish and came up at the boat launch. Took trail through woods that connects to 10. headed west on 10 to Trail 13 the grade. Got gas in town. Breakfast in town. Then head north on 13 to 6 and headed toward Conover. Picked up 45N and then 6W to Land O' Lakes. Then head back out of Land O' Lakes on 6 going east this time toward Phelps. Took 6 into Phelps coming out across the road from North Twin. Then on to Alvin and Nelma

picking up 10. Headed west on 10 toward Eagle River. Took that back to the Catfish Lake Loop. Rode the 5 miles across and up the hill & back. Almost a 100 mile ride. The trail were great. Lots snow and lots of fun!

Remember that at night - -that's dusk to dawn - -there is a 55 mph speed limit on all snowmobile trails. Also, when you are riding parallel to a road, as a sledder, you cannot exceed the speed limit of the road you are running next to. So, for instance, on Trail 13 through Eagle River, that would be 25, 30 or 40 mph, depending on where you are. Be aware of the speed limit, both for your safety, and to save being issued a costly citation, which can increase your insurance costs.

It's cold in Eagle River - -so make sure you follow some simple rules:

- \* Dress for the cold. Layers are best.
- \* Do not ride alone and make sure that ALL of the group you are riding with is with you. A good system to use is when each rider is responsible for the rider directly BEHIND them. That way no one is left behind.
- \* Stop frequently to warm up - -and drink warm drinks.
- \* Make sure your fuel tank is full
- \* Tell someone where you're headed
- \* Stay on marked trails
- \* Watch for the brown three digit numbers on the trails. If you get into trouble, you can call 911 and give them the number and they will be able to find you quickly.

Wednesday rides are continuing to be very popular this season. New this season is a Tuesday ride. Both Tuesday and Wednesday rides start out at the railroad depot on Trail 13 in Eagle River by the Friendship House restaurant at 9:00 am. You don't have to be a club member to join the rides- - and they are great fun!

Another great addition to the Eagle River trails is Day Trip Trailer/Tow Vehicle parking. The parking lot is located by driving north on Hwy. 45 and turning left on Bluebird Rd. Bluebird Rd. is in between Days Inn and Leif's Restaurant. Bluebird Rd. curves behind Leif's and that is where the parking is located. Watch for the signs.

The 100 miles of snowmobile trails are groomed and maintained by the Sno-Eagles snowmobile club in the Eagle River area and are continually inspected.

Sno-Eagles Inc. who groom and maintain the trails described strongly recommends that riders pick up a new 2014 Snow-Eagles trail map.

The "Proud Groomers of the Snowmobile Capital of the World®", the Sno-Eagles, Inc." continue to groom the trails. "It's a great year to be a sledder," says the website ([www.sno-eagles.org](http://www.sno-eagles.org))

There are many pristine X-C ski and snowshoe trails in the Eagle River area. The trails are among the best in the Midwest. The trails are groomed for both skating and classic-style-cross-country skiing. We rate the current ski trail conditions (on a scale of 1 to 5, 1=poor to 5=excellent).  
Current

rating: 5 There is close to three feet of snow on the ground in the Eagle River area. The Three Eagle trail and Afterglow Lake Resort are in excellent shape with a level skate skiing deck and full depth classic tracks. Anvil National Recreation trail is freshly groomed. Regardless,

the skied in classic tracks are working well. This system is more suited to the classic technique as not all the trails are wide enough for good skating.

The Nordmarka trails have a skate lane and classic track set, although there may be some drifting if the winds are in the projected 10-20 mph range

Eagle River area snowshoers will find trekking opportunities on both trails and miles upon miles of logging roads. Fresh snow has blanketed Eagle River's snowshoe trails. The deep Eagle River area snowbase provides a very good opportunity for snowshoeing. There may be some rough layers on the snow, especially in open areas. With little wind and more fresh snow it's a beautiful time to be out on the trails just as long as you dress warmly for both comfort and safety.

Check with the Eagle River Chamber of Commerce for up-to-the-minute information on all trail conditions. Detailed contact information for the Eagle River Chamber is available at the end of this report.

Information: Recorded trail update: 715-479-5185; Eagle River Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center ; 800-359-6315; 715-479-6400; web: [www.eagleriver.org](http://www.eagleriver.org)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

##### \*\*\* EAGLE RIVER'S BREATHTAKING ICE CASTLE IS OPEN!

-- Every year between Christmas and New Year's (weather permitting), Eagle River's annual ice castle construction has been a community tradition for nearly eighty years! Over 3,000 ten-inch ice blocks are cut from a local lake using antique ice equipment, trucked to town, and placed and sculpted into a breathtaking new design every year by volunteers led by the area Fire Department. Located on a major snowmobile trail through Eagle River, everyone stops to have their picture taken in front of the Ice Castle! Lit at night, too! And as a special treat-- Jigsaw puzzles of a number of years of gorgeous Ice Castles. Available now at Grandma's Toy Box and the Depot Museum in Eagle River. Eagle River Chamber of Commerce; 800-359-6315; 715-479-6400; e-mail: [info@eagleriver.org](mailto:info@eagleriver.org); web: [www.eagleriver.org](http://www.eagleriver.org)

-- Fri.-Sun., Feb. 7-9, 2014: 9th Annual Labatt Blue USA Adult Pond Hockey Championships. Experience the thrill and challenge of this classic 4 on 4 Pond Hockey Championships held at the Chanticleer Inn on Dollar Lake in Eagle River. Join the hundreds of teams -- competing on 24 specially prepared ice rinks, and thousands of participants and fans from across the United States and Canada who enjoy this unique and wonderful event. Eagle River Chamber of Commerce; 800-359-6315; 715-479-6400; e-mail: [info@eagleriver.org](mailto:info@eagleriver.org); web: [www.eagleriver.org](http://www.eagleriver.org)

-- Fri.-Sat., Feb. 14-15, 2014: 7th Annual Wisconsin Pink Ribbon Riders Snow Run. Eagle River Chamber of Commerce; 800-359-6315; 715-479-6400; e-mail: [info@eagleriver.org](mailto:info@eagleriver.org); web: [www.eagleriver.org](http://www.eagleriver.org)

-- Sat-Sun., March 1-2, 2014: 24th Annual Trigs Klondike Days. The most varied winter event anywhere in the country. Winter family festival, Native American exhibits, snow sculptures, cut, stack and split contest, dog sled weigh pulls, sleigh rides, arts & crafts, Amish quilt show and sale. Authentic Voyageur encampment, staffed by recreators, smithing and muzzleloading exhibitions, live entertainment, Native American dancing, wonderful Northwoods and vintage food. Thousands attend

for the fun, very affordable and fascinating historical importance of this unique event. Eagle River Chamber of Commerce; 800-359-6315; 715-479-6400; e-mail: [info@eagleriver.org](mailto:info@eagleriver.org); web: [www.eagleriver.org](http://www.eagleriver.org)

- - The winter season in Eagle River is much more than just "snow." The pristine landscape is dotted with the beauty of nature at every turn. In Eagle River, Wisconsin's Northwoods literally comes alive -- unmatched anywhere. Snowmobiling, X-C skiing, snowshoeing, pond hockey, skating, ice fishing on over 1,300 glacial lakes, rivers and impoundments - - and lots of lunkers, too! Relaxing in front of a warm fire, with rosy cheeks and hot chocolate. "The sounds of silence" for you and your loved ones and friends. Every winter's day in Eagle River means celebrating "the holidays"

- -and that includes your very own "private holiday." It's all right here in Eagle River. A warm, welcoming community, with all needed public and private services. Accommodations, festivals, events and opportunities for every taste and age. We'll be happy to help you plan your visit, and provide you with any information you need. Contact us at anytime: Eagle River Chamber of Commerce; 800-359-6315; 715-479-6400; e-mail:

[info@eagleriver.org](mailto:info@eagleriver.org); web: [www.eagleriver.org](http://www.eagleriver.org)

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