



ICE SKATING POND GUIDELINES

City of Wisconsin Rapids Parks & Recreation Department

FLOODING PROCEDURES:

Skating ponds are checked regularly and flooded/swept as needed.

Ponds cannot be surfaced during the following conditions:

1. Snow fall
2. Extreme cold (-10 degrees). Flooding at extremely cold temperatures causes ice to crack and boil.
3. Extreme warm (+25 degrees). Flooding in warm weather results in puddling and uneven surfaces.
4. High winds & blowing snow. Flooding under these conditions causes poor ice, air pockets, and ripples.

WEATHER CLOSURES:

Warming house and ponds may close if inclement weather affects ice conditions. Attendant has the authority to close warming house and pond if conditions become hazardous. Closures will be posted on the City's website (www.wirapids.org/ice-skating.html) and Facebook page (Wisconsin Rapids Parks & Recreation).

Warming house and ponds will close if wind chill or air temperature reaches -20°F or colder.

In the event of measurable snowfall, the warming house and ponds may close.

If warming house is closed due to inclement weather, skating pond may be used at your own risk. Pond lighting will be on only when warming house is open.

SNOW CLEARING:

Ponds will be cleared of snow as soon as possible, but not until the snow has stopped falling. Clearing roads and sidewalks is priority after a snowfall. There are shovels at the ponds if skaters want to clear the snow off the ice. It is not the attendant's responsibility to clear ponds; they are responsible for keeping the warming house entrance & exit clear of snow.

WITTER PARK WARMING HOUSE HOURS

Opens approximately 3rd week of December; closes late in February (weather dependent).

Weekdays: 5-7 p.m., Weekends: 1-7 p.m.

Non-School Days: 1-7 p.m.

Holidays: Closed (12/24, 12/25 & 1/1)

Hours are for warming house only. As noted above, pond lighting will be on only when warming house is open. Limited number of ice skates and sizes available for public use. No hockey sticks or pucks allowed at Witter Park.

ROBINSON PARK

Low board hockey during regular park hours (8 a.m. - 11 p.m.). Restrooms and warming house are not available at this location.

In the event of an emergency, please dial 911. Report damage, vandalism or other issues to the Parks & Recreation Department, Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., (715) 421-8240. On weekends or after hours, call the Police Department's non-emergency number, (715) 423-4444, and press #2.