

2020 WINTER *Guide*

DEAR FRIEND:

Winter is a great time to bundle up and escape — to Michigan's great outdoors!

Michigan is the perfect state for those seeking all the adventures that winter has to offer. Families can enjoy skiing, snowboarding, skating, snowmobiling, ice fishing and more during the winter season. With more than 3,000 miles of cross country ski trails, some of the best downhill skiing in the Midwest and 6,400 miles of snowmobile trails, Michigan offers fantastic outdoor recreation opportunities.

Local festivals and winter events provide more opportunities for outdoor entertainment. This Winter Guide highlights many of these activities statewide and in our community.

Tourism has a huge impact on Michigan residents statewide, and tourism spending grew 3.9% in 2018 for a total of \$25.7 billion. So when you spend your leisure and sporting dollars in our great state, you help support small businesses and communities.

Best wishes for a safe and cool Michigan winter.

Sincerely,

Tom Barrett



STATE SENATOR
**TOM
BARRETT**



SENATE DISTRICT 24

TOLL-FREE 855.347.8024

E-MAIL sentbarrett@senate.michigan.gov

VISIT www.SenatorTomBarrett.com

2020 WINTER *Guide*

ENJOY **MICHIGAN STATE PARKS** DURING THE WINTER

Michigan state parks aren't only great for warm weather destinations!

Michiganders can enjoy camping in the great outdoors all winter long, with more than 40 parks statewide offering campgrounds, cabins, lodges and yurts that are open year-round. Most of the locations are surrounded by beautiful cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobile trails.

Many of the locations offer heated cabins, lodges and yurts available to rent. Some locations are only accessible by hiking or snowmobiling, so be sure to do your research before you embark on your adventure. When snowmobiling, four inches of snow or more is required to operate a snowmobile within a state park and any trail riding must take place on trails designated for such use.

There's even a luge run at Muskegon State Park where the adventurous can catch the Olympic spirit!

Call **1-877-TRY-LUGE** or visit www.msports.org for more information.

To find the perfect park for your favorite cold weather activity, visit www.michigan.gov/dnr and click on the Camping icon. A state recreation passport is needed for park entry; campsite fees are extra.



WEEKLY **FISHING REPORT**

Stay up-to-date on the latest regional fishing news and fishing tips all year. The Weekly Fishing Report outlines fishing conditions around the state. Access it online at www.michigan.gov/fishingreport or by phone at **855-777-0908**.

BARRETT ALERTS SPORTSMEN TO FREE WINTER FISHING WEEKEND

Michigan anglers can enjoy great fishing opportunities during the winter season. Popular winter species include bluegill, pike, smelt, walleye and yellow perch.

Additionally, anglers can check out **Michigan's annual Winter Free Fishing Weekend — Feb. 15-16** — when all fishing license fees are waived for residents and out-of-state visitors on both inland and Great Lakes waters. All fishing regulations still apply.

Visit www.michigan.gov/freefishing for information on special events and activities. A DNR Recreation Passport will not be required at any state park or recreation area during the free fishing weekend.

Fun fishing starts with being safe, and winter fishing has its own set of safety rules. Take extra care to follow all of the safety guidelines and enjoy Michigan's bounty!



LOCAL WINTER EVENTS

Owosso - North Pole Express

Owosso • Every Sat./Sun. in Dec.

Wonderland of lights

Lansing • Now-Dec. 31

DeWitt Christmas Light Parade

DeWitt • Dec. 1

[www.lansingfamilyfun.com/events/
dewitt-christmas-light-parade/](http://www.lansingfamilyfun.com/events/dewitt-christmas-light-parade/)

St. Johns Light Festival & Santa Parade

St. Johns • Dec. 4 • www.sjlightfest.com

Night Lights Christmas Parade

Grand Ledge • Dec. 6 • www.grandledgechamber.com

Hometown Family Christmas

Eaton Rapids • Dec. 7 • www.eatonrapidschamber.com

St. Michaels Craft Show

Grand Ledge • Dec. 7

Williamston Light Parade

Williamston • Dec. 7

www.williamston.org/event/light-parade

Winter Glow

East Lansing • Dec. 7

www.cityofeastlansing.com/winterglow

MSU Annual Arts & Crafts Shows

East Lansing • Dec. 7-8

uabevents.com/arts-and-crafts-show

Christmas on Main

Owosso • Dec. 14

[www.allevents.in/owosso/christmas-on-
main/200018285104852](http://www.allevents.in/owosso/christmas-on-main/200018285104852)

Perry Christmas Fantasy

Perry • Dec. 14 • www.perry.mi.us

Owosso - NYE Block Party

Owosso • Dec. 31 •

[www.allevents.in/owosso/nye-block-
party-2019-20/200018285105256](http://www.allevents.in/owosso/nye-block-party-2019-20/200018285105256)

Art & Craft Beer Fest

Lansing • Feb. 9 • www.artandcraftbeerfest.com

Michigan Nordic Fire Festival

Charlotte • Feb. 22-24

www.michigannordicfirefestival.com

We apologize if we missed your festival. If you know of a festival in your community that you would like added in next year's edition, please reach out to our office.

STATEWIDE WINTER EVENTS

Tip-Up Town USA

Houghton Lake • Jan. 18-19, 25
www.houghtonlakechamber.net

International 500 Snowmobile Race

Sault Ste. Marie • Jan. 27 to Feb. 1
www.i-500.com

UP 200, Midnight Run, and Jack Pine 30 Sled Dog Races

Marquette & Gwinn • Feb. 13-17
www.up200.org

Continental Cup Ski Jumping Tournament

Iron Mountain • Feb. 15-16
www.kiwanisskiclub.com

Winter Free Fishing Weekend

Statewide • Feb. 15-16
www.michigan.gov/freefishing

FESTIVALS

Michigan Snowmobile Festival

Gaylord • Feb. 21-22
www.gaylordmichigan.net

Plymouth Ice Festival

Plymouth • Jan. 10-12
www.plymouthicefestival.com

SISU Ski Fest

Ironwood • Jan. 11
www.sisuskifest.com

Snowfest

Frankenmuth • Jan. 22-27
www.zehnders.com

Winterfest

Grand Haven • Jan. 23-26
www.winterfestmi.org

Winter Carnival

Houghton • Feb. 5-8
www.mtu.edu/winter-carnival

Winter Games

Grand Rapids • Feb. 14-16
[www.stategamesofmichigan.com/
winter-games-sports-lineup](http://www.stategamesofmichigan.com/winter-games-sports-lineup)