



Parks & Recreation

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parks@duluthmn.gov

City of Duluth Cross-Country Ski Trail FAQ

- Do I need to pay to ski?

Yes! City of Duluth trails are supported by MnDNR Grant-in-Aid funding, and are part of the Great Minnesota Ski Pass system. Annual ski passes are just \$25 and help to fund this program. Passes can be purchased online at mndnr.gov, by phone at 1-888-MNLICENSE, or in-person at many area businesses.

- Are dogs allowed on the xc-ski trails?

Dogs are allowed on the trails at Lester Golf Course for skijoring purposes only. Dogs are required to be leashed, under control, and picked up after at all times.

- How many miles/kilometers of ski trail does Duluth have?

The City of Duluth maintains 30 miles (48k) of ski trail between Magney Snively, Piedmont, Chester, Hartley, and Lester-Amity parks. Upper Spirit Mountain, Grand Avenue Nordic Center, UMD Bagley Nature Area, and Snowflake Nordic Ski Center provide an additional 25 miles (40k) of trail- that's 55 miles (88k) of trail within the City limits!

- When are the trails open?

City of Duluth parks are open 6am until 10pm daily. Lighting helps to extend skiing at Lester-Amity, and Grand Avenue Nordic Center.

- When are the trails groomed?

As of January 10, 2020 City of Duluth trails have been groomed an average of 7 times per trail. With just 35 days, or 4 weeks of groomable snow this means each trail is groomed nearly twice per week!

In 2019 City of Duluth trails we groomed an average of 20 times per trail January through March, for 12 weeks of groomable snow. This means each trail was groomed nearly twice per week!

- Why are the trails not groomed more often?

Staffing, funding, and equipment are all factors impacting frequency of grooming on City of Duluth trails. Parks Maintenance staff assigned to grooming often begin their day as early as 2am, as well as working weekends and even holidays to provide the best ski conditions possible. Additional factors such as weather, snow conditions, humidity/moisture, temperature (ambient air, windchill, and snow surface temp) all play in to our ability and opportunity to groom trails. There's a lot behind the science of snow!



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www.duluthmn.gov

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