

MTTA - TRAIL AND HUT USER INFORMATION

MTTA Office: Behind the Ashford Fire Dept. Open to the public 9-5 pm; weekends mid-December through mid-April, midweek during Winter and Spring Breaks. Phone: (360) 569-2451 (No voicemail. Service may be turned off during summer). Lost and Found items must be claimed during open hours. Unclaimed items will be donated to a charity at the end of winter and summer seasons.

Snoparks: Vehicles should have chains/traction devices from Nov. 1st - April 30th or longer, depending on snow conditions. Fit them at home and put on when roads get slippery. A good option for low clearance AWD vehicles are Autosocks. Recommended vehicle supplies: tow strap, shovel, extra food, water, clothing, sleeping bag, headlamp.

Snopark permits and/or Discover Passes are required to park in Snoparks year-round. These funds allow parking lots to remain open, clear of snow, with bathroom maintenance. Not displaying a permit or pass may earn a \$100 fine.

Winter Season (Nov. 1st – April 30th) Two options:

1. Seasonal Non-Motorized permit (approx. \$40). Best value; unlimited use. Must match license plate # and be easily seen or affixed on driver's side, lower left, interior windshield.

<https://fortress.wa.gov/parks/ecomprod/Store/SNO/SnoChoice.aspx>

2. One day permit (approx. \$20) combined with a valid Discover pass (approx. \$12). Overnight guests must have two 1-day permit/pass combos or a Seasonal permit. For more info: <https://parks.state.wa.us/134/Permits>

Summer Season (May 1st – Oct. 31st) Discover Pass required. Approx. \$35 Annual or \$12 One-day. Two one-day passes are required if you stay overnight. <https://store.discoverpass.wa.gov>

Park "straight in", 2-3 feet from next vehicle. Overnight carpools, park one behind the other to conserve space. Do not block snowplow access, gate, or Ski Patrol entrance. Doing so may incur a \$200 tow fee.

Trails: MTTA trails are well signed logging roads in the summer, groomed ski trails in winter. No avalanche danger on main trails. Side trails are not patrolled or groomed. Use caution if going off-trail. Carry the 10 Essentials including a GPS, map, compass.

South District trails to High Hut, Snow Bowl, and Yurt are open year-round. Well-behaved dogs are allowed on trails, but not in huts. Clean up dog poop.

North District trails and Copper Creek Hut is only open during the winter. Usually mid-Nov. through mid-April (snow dependent). No dogs allowed as this is a sensitive wildlife habitat/breeding area.

Have skis or snowshoes in the winter. Weather changes suddenly and 1-4' of snow can fall in one day. Be prepared.

If your boots leave more than a ½" imprint in the snow, put on skis or snowshoes.

Hike or snowshoe, single-file on far edges of trail to preserve groomed surface. (A lot of volunteer time and money is invested in grooming. It can be undone with one careless trail user).

Unless you're on skis, stay off center of groomed snow. This allows a safe, smooth surface for skiers (divots freeze and pose dangers at downhill speeds). Kindly encourage others to hike single-file on either side.

Huts: Before you leave home:

1. Read Terms & Conditions, Hut Responsibilities, and FAQ pages on Mt Tahoma Trails website. Pack and carry at least the 10 Essentials. Check weather forecasts: <https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lon=-121.9818878173828&lat=46.64943616335026#.W-3rqOhKiUk> and <http://www.wsdot.com/Traffic/forecast/Default.aspx?zone=WA569>
2. Pay for reservation, then print and bring your email confirmation (permit). Patrollers may check if too many people are at huts after 7 pm. Non-permitted guests may be asked to leave.

At huts:

1. Secure outdoor gear to prevent tripping hazards, wind removal, and out of the snowcat's way.
2. Put indoor gear upstairs or out of way of others. If wet, hang on racks and wipe up puddles or drips.
3. Keep community areas neat and tidy at all times. Day users come and go (7 am – 7 pm) so make room for visitors. Sweep during stay and especially before leaving.
4. Wash, dry, and put away dishes after use. Do not leave dishes in drainer. Clean counters, tables.
5. Keep doors closed (keeps heat in, rodents out). Close doors upstairs and turn off heat stove early evening to conserve fuel and prevent sleeping areas from becoming too hot.
6. Avoid opening windows as this wastes propane. Check for open windows and doors when arriving and before leaving.
7. Shovel clean snow into snow buckets continually. Keep shovels in protected hut alcoves. Place snow buckets near stove to melt.
8. Keep water filters topped off by adding cold water (use sieve to screen impurities). Estimate how much to add to prevent overflow. Mop up water.
9. Turn timer on to turn on lights. Use sparingly (limited solar charge). Turn off lights when not needed. If lights go out, reset timer. If no charge, use headlamps or lanterns.
10. Resupply toilet paper from bins in outhouse or hut.

Before you leave a hut:

1. Fill water filters and snow buckets.
2. Turn thermostat toggle switch to OFF.
3. Make sure windows/doors are shut tight.
4. Clean and sweep every room.
5. Pack out your trash (including bathroom).

In short - 3 C's: Conserve. Clean. Courtesy

Conserve: water, lights, propane, paper supplies, towels.

Leave trails and huts better than you found them.

Be nice. Have fun!