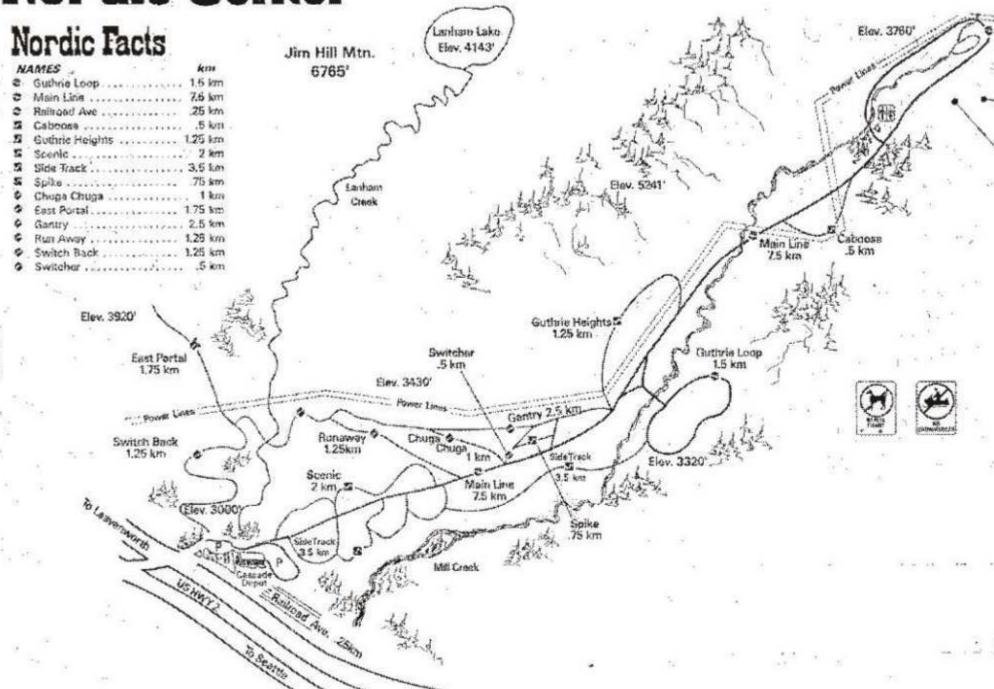
Nordic Center



THE STEVENS PASS NORDIC & SNOWSHOE CENTER

Description:

The Stevens Pass Nordic Center has about 30 km. of trails of a nice variety for cross country skiers and about 8 km. of snowshoe trails marked out. The Main Line trail down the center of the Mill Creek Valley is pretty easy and continues all the way to the head of the valley to the base of the alpine area's Southern Cross Chair Lift, and a nice set of restrooms. The meadow here is a nice lunch spot for those who make it this far. The lower valley has a series of loops that interconnect with the main trail. Those that are east of Main Line are more advanced steeper terrain, and those that are west are more gentle, and more forested. The snowshoe trails are mostly tight up and down forest routes near the nordic center. For more current map including one of the snowshoe trails go to: https://www.stevenspass.com/plan-your-trip/more-options/nordic-center.aspx and click on "view nordic map" about half way down the page

Directions:

From Seattle drive north and east on Hwy. 2 (Stevens Pass Hwy.). Once over the summit go another five miles east to a right hand turn into the nordic center parking lot. On crowded alpine ski weekends get here early and park in the second lot near the nordic center because the lower lot will fill up with alpine skiers catching the shuttle back up to the ski area at the summit.

Permits or Fees Required:

There are no parking fees here but there are trail passes required. This year's costs are yet to be announced but in 2019 they were \$25 for adults and \$15 for seniors (70 and over)



Winter Snow Driving:

- A. Clothing:
 - 1. Be sure to bring proper clothing for a winter drive, old jacket and gloves for shoveling & chains, bring extra layers and a blanket if stuck on the highway for a while.
- B. Winter Driving equipment:
- 1.Chains:Link,Cable, Fabric Sock, Plastic. Link chains best for deep snow, cables for convenience.
- 2. Traction aid: Sand or kitty litter, rock salt, old rug, add weight (sand bags), use momentum.
 - 3. Shovel, blocks
 - C. Trip Preparation:
- 1. Check pass report for closures or restrictions, if pass will be closed for avalanche control this will usually be posted.
- a. Snoqualmie Pass is usually the first pass to close because the commercial truck traffic goes this way; Stevens tends to get more seasoned drivers, but road maintenance is not as good.
- Check weather before you go. If a big storm is predicted for the afternoon you don't want get stuck on an unplowed back road after a long day of skiing or snowshoeing.
 - 3. Check avalanche forecast before you go:
- a. Five levels: 1-Low, 2-Moderate, 3-Considerable, 4-High, 5-Extreme. There are safe places to go in most all conditions, but you do not want to be near potential avalanche terrain during hazardous conditions (https://www.nwac.us).
- D. Covid-19 precautions:
- 1. Bring your own food drinks, hand cleaner, face mask, Kleenex etc. so you do not have to stop.
- 2. If you have to stop for gas/bathroom bring disposable gloves or wash hands after touching gas pump or other high touch points.
- 3. Always wear face filter mask over nose and mouth at trailheads, when passing people or when indoors.
- 4. Washing with soap and water is best as this virus is lipid (oil) encased and soap breaks down this encapsulation. Alcohol hand jell or aerosol or alcohol/clorox hand wipes are next best, if contact time and concentration is sufficient.