



NEW OUTDOOR ICE SKATING RINK TO OPEN AT WILDERNESS AT THE SMOKIES FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

SKATE FOR A CAUSE AND SUPPORT SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF EAST TENNESSEE ON NOV. 20, 2018

Sevierville, Tenn. – October 30, 2018 – An outdoor ice skating rink, part of Santa’s Village – a new outdoor entertainment option for the holidays in the Smoky Mountains, will open November 16 at [Wilderness at the Smokies](#) in Sevierville, Tenn. Part of their ever-expanding holiday amenities at Wilderness at the Smokies, Santa’s Village is set amidst holiday lights and décor, with entertainment including live music, fire pits and refreshments from the newly opened outdoor Firefly Bar & Grill.

The only outdoor ice skating rink in the Smokies, Wilderness Resort has transformed their outdoor wavepool to accommodate a 3,200 square-foot rink. Operating Nov. 16, 2018 – Jan. 6, 2019, resort guests and the general public can enjoy a traditional family past time during the holidays. For rates, daily hours of operation, visit www.wildernessatthesmokies.com.

Skate for a Cause

Wilderness at the Smokies has aligned with Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee. On Nov. 20 from 4-10pm, 100% of ice skating admissions will directly benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee.

“We are honored to be recognized by Wilderness at the Smokies at the opening of the new ice rink. We are grateful for the partnership and thankful to receive the generous funds from this exciting new addition. It is most compelling that they are helping us provide a human basic need throughout our 18 county service area. We are blessed to have their support”. – Elaine Streno, Executive Director, Second Harvest Food Bank of Tennessee.

Wilderness at the Smokies Schedule of Holiday Happenings

Indoors, Wilderness at the Smokies offers a myriad of festivities including visits with Santa, story time with Mrs. Claus, cookie decorating, crafts, games and holiday shopping in specialty gift shops, all while creating family memories and splashing the day away inside the Smoky Mountain’s largest, and always 84-degrees, indoor waterpark.

Wilderness at the Smokies’ Thanksgiving – Gather with family for an unforgettable Thanksgiving day feast. Leave the cooking and the clean up to Wilderness at the Smokies’ top chefs and enjoy turkey, prime rib, roast beef, honey baked ham and all the traditional and non-traditional fixings at Thirsty Miner restaurant. Day passes are available to play the day away with family and friends inside the 84-degree Wild WaterDome – The Smokies biggest indoor waterpark, where it’s always 84-degrees, and also Adventure Forest Entertainment Center.

Santa's Workshop – Santa's Workshop will open Thanksgiving Day upon the 11am arrival of Santa Claus at the River Lodge entrance. Guests can visit with him and his elves during weekends and select dates throughout the Holiday season, make crafts, decorate cookies, and write letters to the Jolly Old Elf himself. Santa will also visit guests in Wild WaterDome Indoor Waterpark, and who knows, maybe even ride a waterslide or two.

Storytelling with Mrs. Claus – Enjoy holiday classics, including “Twas the Night Before Christmas” as read by Mrs. Claus. Located at Santa's workshop at River Lodge Lobby, Mrs. Claus will delight pajama-clad children and parents alike as she reads your favorite Christmas tales.

Santa Hustle Smokies 5k & Half Marathon – See Sevierville unlike ever before as thousands of Santas race along the city streets during the annual Santa Hustle Smokies 5k and Half Marathon on Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018. The race begins and ends at Wilderness at the Smokies, and will benefit Keep Sevier Beautiful, the local affiliate of Keep America Beautiful. For more information or to register visit <http://www.santahustle.com/smokies/>.

Toys for Tots – Wilderness at the Smokies is also serving as a collection site for Toys for Tots and encourages guests, employees, and the general public to donate new, unwrapped toys and help make the Holiday a little brighter for area children in need.

Christmas Buffet – Resort guests and the general public can leave the cooking to Wilderness at the Smokies' top chefs and enjoy a wonderful Christmas buffet on Christmas Day in the Thirsty Miner restaurant. A special holiday menu includes carved turkey, roast beef, and an array of salads and desserts.

New Years Celebration – New Year's Eve packages offer the ultimate family-friendly party. Guests can enjoy live music, balloon drop, champagne toast and a dinner buffet featuring chef carving stations, salads, an array of desserts and more.

Winterfest in Pigeon Forge, Gatlinburg and Sevierville - Many of the region's entertainment and tourist attractions transform for the holidays. Smoky Mountain Winterfest offers a spectacular display of lights and events across these three mountain towns to celebrate the chilly season with light displays, unique shopping, award-winning shows and attractions — all while showcasing the winter beauty of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

For a complete schedule of Holiday Happenings at Wilderness at the Smokies or to make an overnight reservation, visit www.WildernessattheSmokies.com or call 1.877.325.WILD (9453)

About Wilderness at the Smokies

Wilderness at the Smokies, the Smoky Mountains' Largest Waterpark Resort & Family Entertainment Center, is situated in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, the #1 most visited national park, in Sevierville, Tenn. Featuring 713 rooms, suites and villas, Wilderness at the Smokies offers guests an 84-degree, year-round indoor waterpark, two seasonal outdoor waterparks, an indoor family entertainment center, dining, shopping, a 36-hole championship golf course, and more than 200,000 square feet of meeting and convention space. Owned and operated by Stand Rock Hospitality, a Wisconsin Dells, Wis.-based hotel and hospitality development and management company, Wilderness at the Smokies has created hundreds of jobs in the greater Sevierville community, attracting year-round tourism, and having a major impact on sales tax and room tax generated for the City of Sevierville since opening its doors in 2008.

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