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## **Outdoor Ice Skating To Return and Other Fun Holiday Traditions Planned at Wilderness at the Smokies**

**Skate for a Cause and Support Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee  
on Nov. 21, 2020**

**Sevierville, Tenn.** – The holidays are all about traditions, which is why [Wilderness at the Smokies](#) is excited to announce it is bringing back its outdoor ice skating rink **November 13, 2020 - January 10, 2021**.

“Being outside in the fresh air ice skating together is the perfect family holiday tradition especially this year as we are all trying to social distance more,” said Pete Tennis, general manager of Wilderness at the Smokies.

The ice rink, which occupies 3,200 square feet of the resort's outdoor wave pool, will be open daily for resort guests and the public to enjoy. The admission fee will be included with room rates if guests use Code: ICESKATE at the time of booking. At check-in, guests will be able to purchase admissions for \$10 per person. At the rink, admission will be for \$17.99 plus tax for guests or the public and will include skates. The rink will be open from 10 am to 10 pm Saturday – Sunday, Thanksgiving and Christmas break; and 4 pm to 10 pm Monday- Friday.

Tennis adds there are a number of fun things planned for the rink this year including an onsite DJ on **Friday Nov. 13, 20, and 27 from 7-10 pm**. There will also be a figure skating performance **every Friday evening from 7:30-7:45pm**.

For those who have never skated before, Cool Sports will be offering skating lessons **every Saturday between 9-10 am**. The cost of a lesson is \$15 for 30 minutes or \$25 for an hour. Reservations will need to be made in advance at the

Smoky Crossing Hut. In addition, Cool Sports will also be hosting a hockey game for folks to watch on **Saturday, December 5 from 7 am-noon.**

### **Skate for a Cause**

On **Saturday, November 21 from 10 am-10 pm** the resort will be hosting a special fundraiser for Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee where 100 percent of the public ice skating admissions will directly benefit the agency.

### **Other Wilderness at the Smokies Holiday Traditions Being Offered Wilderness at the Smokies' Thanksgiving**

The resort's Thirsty Miner's Thanksgiving buffet will be returning this year but with some new safety measures due to COVID-19. Enjoy a hearty buffet served by mask and glove wearing staff, from 1-8 pm. Plexi-glass shields will protect the front and side of the buffet. Masks will be required as guests are in the buffet line but not once they are seated at their table.

Tables will be spaced six feet apart from each other and will be disinfected between use. The restaurant will also be operating at a reduced capacity. Reservations will be required.

To see a complete menu visit:

<https://www.wildernessatthesmokies.com/blog/start-a-new-tradition-celebrate-your-thanksgiving-with-us/>. Please call 865.868.4473 to make your reservation.

The resort will also be hosting a Christmas Day buffet. Those details are still being worked out.

### **Santa Appearances**

Despite COVID-19, resort guests will be able to meet and greet Santa Claus on **Saturday November 28, December 5, 12, and 19 from 12-5 pm** in the resort's holiday-themed River Lodge Conference Center. Santa will be seated with two decorated Christmas trees between his chair and a chair for the child/children for photo opportunities. Santa will also be sitting behind plexi-glass with a piece in between him and his little guests for everyone's safety.

### **Storytime with Mrs. Claus**

Resort guests are invited to join Mrs. Claus on **Friday, November 27, December 4, 11, and 18 and then on Thursday, December 24** as she hosts 30-minute Christmas themed story times at **6, 6:30, 7 and 7:30 pm** in our River Lodge Conference Center. (Please note due to social distancing only 12 children will be able to participate in each story time.) To sign up for a time visit guests services.

### **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](http://www.WildernessattheSmokies.com) or call 1.877.325.WILD (9453)

Wilderness at the Smokies is the Smoky Mountain region's largest waterpark resort and family entertainment center. It is located in Sevierville, TN, and is situated in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, whose famous national park is the most popular in the United States, welcoming over 11 million visitors a year.

The resort features 234 Stone Hill guest rooms; 472 River Lodge suites and 8 Villas; an always 84-degree, year-round indoor waterpark; two seasonal outdoor waterparks; an indoor family entertainment center; a variety of dining and shopping options; a 36-hole championship golf course; and more than 200,000 square feet of meeting and convention space. It is owned by Wilderness Resort and Waterparks, a Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin-based hotel and hospitality development and management company, which also operates Wilderness Resort, Glacier Canyon Lodge, Wilderness on the Lake and Sundara Spa all in Wisconsin Dells.

Wilderness at the Smokies has created hundreds of jobs in the greater Sevierville community, attracting year-round tourism, and has a major impact on sales tax and room tax generated for the City of Sevierville since opening its doors in 2008. For more information visit [WildernessattheSmokies.com](http://WildernessattheSmokies.com) or call 877.325.9453.