

Corporate Policy and Procedure



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TAB: COMMUNITY SERVICES
SECTION: RECREATION
SUBJECT: NATURAL ICE RINK PROGRAM

POLICY STATEMENT Recreation and Parks, Community Services Department is responsible for identifying suitable and viable natural ice rink locations in the City of Mississauga and for providing assistance in their operations through the Natural Ice Rink Program.

OBJECTIVES The objectives of the Natural Ice Rink Program are to:

- encourage volunteer participation in the provision of outdoor recreation opportunities in the City of Mississauga;
- provide safe and well equipped natural ice rinks for the purpose of unscheduled skating opportunities.

Natural ice rinks created under this program are intended for use by the general public for pleasure skating only.

APPLICATION Any individual, volunteer group or organization in the City of Mississauga may apply to Recreation and Parks to operate a natural ice rink. Written permission from the respective Board of Education must be obtained by the applicant if the rink is to be constructed on Board of Education property.

Applications must be made on a yearly basis. The Natural Ice Rink Program is advertised in the annual Recreation and Parks Fall and Winter Program brochure. By September 1st, Recreation and Parks staff issue application forms to all operators from the previous year and to all individuals requesting forms throughout the year.

The deadline for submitting an application is November 1st; applicants will be notified of acceptance or rejection of their application by December 1st.

All applicants must confirm at least three volunteers assisting with the rink, and list these individuals on the application form.

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EQUIPMENT

Areas selected for ice rinks are prepared in advance by installing rink boards, equipping the facility with appropriate shovels, scrapers and hoses and providing appropriate signage.

Where possible, ice rink locations will be equipped with a storage hut, an electric heater in the storage hut and heating cables. In parks equipped with flood lights, a timer system will be set up to automatically turn the lights on and off.

An inventory of all equipment at each natural ice rink site will be conducted at the beginning and end of each season.

MAINTENANCE

The applicant is responsible for the flooding and day to day maintenance of the rink for the duration of the season. Recreation and Parks provides consultative assistance as well as required equipment such as shovels, water sources, hoses, etc.

General maintenance of the rink area is conducted by Parks staff, including litter pick up, garbage removal and repairs to the water supply, lights, hoses, boards, shovels, storage huts, etc. Recreation and Parks provides both staff and equipment necessary to remove heavy snowfalls of ten centimetres or more.

A review of the applicant's performance will be conducted at the end of the ice season based on ongoing checks and weekly condition reports of ice rinks.

REFERENCE:

OW-85-89 - 1989 02 27

LAST REVIEW DATE:

April, 2007

CONTACT:

For more information, contact District Operations, Parks, Recreation and Parks, Community Services Department.