



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Governor Deval L. Patrick
Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Murray
EEA Secretary Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.
DCR Commissioner Edward M. Lambert, Jr.

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For Immediate Release: January 19, 2012

Patrick-Murray Administration Offers Accessible Ice Skating at DCR's Buffone Rink in Worcester

WHAT: The Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Universal Access Program is offering accessible ice skating at the Buffone Skating Rink, 284 Lake Ave., in Worcester. Try your wheelchair, an ice sled, or conventional skates on the ice. Spin, slide, race, slalom, socialize, and play gently competitive games with others. Skate through our obstacle course, knock down our tower of foam blocks, and enjoy some power chair games on the ice. Ice Sleds will be for sled hockey and agility games. Conventional skate rentals also will be available. Power wheelchair users are welcome to come out on the ice with their wheels.

Preregistration is required. Please pre-register by calling Heidi Marie-Person at (413)-577-3840.

The Universal Access Program (UAP) strives to increase the participation among persons with disabilities in indoor and outdoor recreation activities in integrated settings at a number of state and urban park facilities across the Commonwealth. During January, February, and March, UAP will offer ice skating, sit-skating, cross-country skiing, sit cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, kick sledding, snowmobiling, and other winter activities. The program also offers accessible cycling, boating, hiking, birding, horseback riding, and letterboxing in summer and fall.

WHEN: Tuesdays' on the following dates and times:

January 26 from 10 a.m. to noon

March 1 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

March 29 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: Buffone Skating Rink, 284 Lake Ave., Worcester (508)-799-0910

DIRECTIONS: Buffone Skating Rink from Boston: Take Interstate 90 (MassPike) to exit 12 and Route 9 toward Framingham/Marlborough. Stay left at the fork to continue toward Route 9 west and merge onto Route 9 west. Continue on Route 9, make a U-turn at Plantation Street, and turn right at Lake Avenue. The rink will be on the right.

Call 413-577-3840 (voice) or 413-577-2200 (TTY) to receive a taped message confirming program status in the event of inclement weather, as well as more information on DCR's Universal Access Program. For a schedule of activities, visit http://www.mass.gov/dcr/universal_access/index.htm.

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The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Edward M. Lambert, Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.

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