

# WINTER IS SNOW MUCH FUN



**Photo Credit/ Linda Zabik**  
Staff member Jennifer Ko Likes to cross country ski at Kalamazoo Nordic Skiers trail in the winter time. She loves to use her cool skis from the 80's.

## Evelyn Banks

Winter is here and the snow has hit hard. Don't be a bump on log, inside watching TV and being on social media when you can be out enjoying the snow. Go ice skating, skiing, or sledding; build a snowman with your younger siblings or maybe even build a snow fort and have a snow ball fight with your friends. Get creative and make up your own games and activities to do in the snow.

Some like Loy Norrix senior Melissa Lee would rather be inside than outside.

"I would rather be inside during the winter because that's where the

heat is, I don't like being cold. When I'm inside I just watch movies, be on the computer or talk on the phone," Lee said.

Being cold is not a good feeling and is a good reason to stay inside, but it is possible to keep your body warm in the winter while outside. First, layer your clothing. Wear a long sleeve shirt under a sweat shirt, underneath a warm winter coat. Put on long johns, tights or sweat pants underneath your pants and wear snow pants on top of those. Wear a scarf, hat, gloves and 2 pairs of wool socks that come up to your calf to make sure no snow or cold air can seep underneath your pants. Last but not least make sure your snow boots are suitable for the snow and cold weather.

There are plenty of places to go have fun right here in Kalamazoo. Echo Valley located on H Avenue is a winter sports park. You can go tubing, tobogganing and ice skating for a very low price. Echo Valley is open January-March on the weekends and you don't need to make reservations before going. Just get together with a group of friends and go have some fun.

Another place to have fun in the snow is Bittersweet Ski Resort in Otsego. They have skiing and snowboarding activities and they have a school to teach you how to ski. Bittersweet Ski resort is open all week

long during the whole winter season. Just go online and check their web site before arriving or call to get all the information you need. There are many other places to go sledding for free in Kalamazoo, including Woods Lake Elementary, Hillside Middle School and Portage Northern High School.

Just because it's cold outside doesn't mean you have to stay in. Being bored all winter is no longer an option. There are things to do and places to go; you just have to stop finding excuses to lie in bed all day.

Get up, bundle up and go have some fun in the snow.

Place	Prices	Days Open
<b>Bittersweet Resort</b> 600 River Road Otsego Mi.	\$25 \$10 \$27-\$32	<b>Ski &amp; Snowboard Rental</b> <b>Helmet Rental</b> <b>Lift Ticket</b>
<b>Echo Valley</b> 8495 E. H Avenue Kalamazoo Mi.	\$18 \$7 \$50 \$25	<b>Tobogganing, Tubing &amp; Daily Combo</b> <b>Ice Skating</b> <b>Season Pass</b> <b>Unlimited Ice skating</b>
<b>Portage Northern</b> 1000 Idaho Avenue Portage Mi.	<b>Free Sledding</b>	<b>Sunday-Saturday</b> <b>After School hours</b>
<b>Woods Lake</b> 3215 Oakland Dr. Kalamazoo Mi.	<b>Free Sledding tobogganing</b>	<b>Sunday-Saturday</b> <b>After School hours</b>
<b>Hillside</b> 1941 Alamo Avenue Kalamazoo Mi	<b>Free Sledding</b>	<b>Sunday-Saturday</b> <b>After School hours</b>

## Kalamazoo VALLEY™

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