



The snowmobile club's BR180 groomer at work on in East Andover with the Rail Trail sign in the background. Photo: Allan Houle

Andover Snowmobile Club

By Allan Houle
Andover Snowmobile Club

The Andover Snowmobile Club's BR180 groomer has been hard at work already this year grooming the railbed in East Andover. The installation of all of the ledge pack on the railbed has made this trail one of the best in the state. No more rocks to be thrown onto the surface of the trail.

This month's meeting will be held on Monday, February 11 at 7 PM in the Science Room of the Andover Elementary/Middle School.

We would like to thank everyone who supported our annual Italian Buffet and Easter Seals Raffle. This is one of our biggest fundraisers and benefits the Easter Seals Society of NH.

It is amazing the support that we receive at this event and all of the activities that are required to support an active snowmobile club. Without willing volunteers we would be hard pressed to

get any of these tasks completed. Thank you to everyone that came out to support this event.

Trail work has gone very well this season with the early snow and cold temperatures. Trail Master Greg Miller has been very active keeping our trails in awesome condition. We have two groomers and six operators to keep 80+ miles of trails groomed. With a grooming speed of four to five miles per hour, you can see that there are many hours spent on the trails.

Most grooming is done at night. The temperatures are typically colder, and it is easier to see the groomer with all those lights and the flashing beacon. However, grooming can take place anytime the temperatures allow.

If you do come upon a groomer, be sure that you have a safe line to pass. It is the responsibility of the rider to be sure they have their machine under control. Enjoy the trails and be safe.

Andover Fish And Game Club Hosts Willis Nowell Memorial Ice Fishing Derby

The Andover Fish and Game Club is sponsoring its 25th annual Willis Nowell Memorial Kids' Ice Fishing Derby at Eagle Pond in Wilmot, just off Route 4. The Derby is for kids 15 and under. Registration starts at 9 AM, and the Derby runs from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

The Derby will be held on Saturday,

February 23, with a bad-weather date of Sunday, February 24. Tackle will be provided.

There will be plenty of free food and drink, and lucky prizes, ribbons, and trophies will be awarded. Please join us for a great time. If you have any questions, call 735-5311.

Blackwater Ski Area

The people of Andover are invited to a celebration of the Blackwater Ski Area on Saturday, February 9, from 5 to 9 PM. Bring your skis, and enjoy an evening of skiing under the lights.

Fires will be blazing inside Yarrow's

Lodge, and a sumptuous barbecue will be served. There is no cost to Andover residents and your guests. We are celebrating the new T-bar lift and other improvements to this great facility.

Join us!

Celebrate!

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Time To Register For NHF&G's Annual Moose Hunt Lottery

By New Hampshire Fish & Game

Lottery applications are now available for the adventure of a lifetime – hunting moose in New Hampshire. The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's 2008 moose hunt lottery is open. The non-refundable entry fee is \$15 for New Hampshire residents and \$25 for non-residents.

New Hampshire's moose hunt is nine days long, starting the third Saturday in October. This year's hunt runs from October 18 through 26. The state's current moose population is estimated at about 6,000 animals.

The odds of being selected in last year's lottery were about 1 in 20 for New Hampshire residents and about 1 in 55 for non-residents – some of the best odds in the nation for moose hunting.

Visit HuntNH.com to enter the moose hunt lottery online or to print an application to mail in. Applications can also be picked up from Fish and Game license agents statewide.

Moose hunt lottery applications for 2008 must be postmarked or submitted online by midnight Eastern Time on May 30, or they may be delivered to New Hampshire Fish and Game headquarters in Concord prior to 4 PM that day. Winners will be selected through a computerized random drawing on June 20.

Last year more than 16,700 appli-

cants entered the lottery for the chance to win one of 675 permits.

Those who are lucky enough to take part in the hunt have an excellent chance of success. Last year almost three-fourths of New Hampshire permit holders got their moose. Permit holders can choose another hunter of any age to accompany them on the hunt, but only one moose may be taken per permit.

Each applicant can enter the moose hunt lottery once each year. A bonus point system improves the chances for unsuccessful applicants who apply each consecutive year. Hunters who get permits are not eligible to enter the lottery for the following three years.

It is not necessary to have a current hunting license to enter the lottery, but hunters who are offered and accept a permit must buy a \$150 resident or \$500 non-resident moose hunt permit, as well as a New Hampshire hunting license.

Both state residents and non-residents may enter the moose lottery. The number of permits available to non-residents is capped, based on the prior year's sales of non-resident hunting licenses (about 15 to 17 percent of the total).

On HuntNH.com you can find more information on moose hunting, including a moose hunt Q&A, regional success rates, and photos and stories from past New Hampshire moose hunts.

Andover Fish & Game Club Willis Nowell Memorial Kids Ice Fishing Derby

Saturday, February 23 • 9 AM
Bad weather: February 24

Kids, 15 & under!
Free food and drink
Lucky prizes
Ribbons
Trophies
Tackle provided

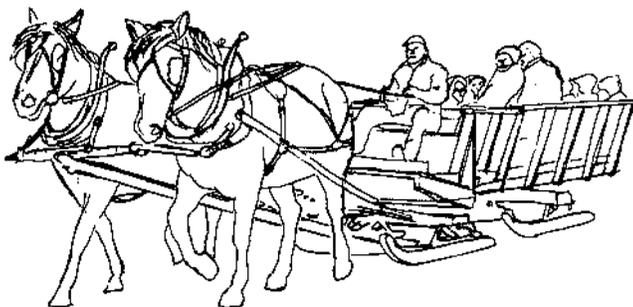
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