



Frequently Asked Questions

1) When will the rinks open?

The rinks will open as soon as installation is complete in early 2017. In future years, the skating season starts after Thanksgiving and runs through March, weather permitting. The temperature must stay below 40 degrees for up to four days for the rinks to open.

The daily status of the rinks can be found on the Wheaton Park District Rainout Line (rainoutline.com/search/dnis/6304101028) and onsite, indicated by a **Green (open)** flag or **Red (closed)** flag.

2) What is open skate?

Residents and nonresidents are free to skate at their own risk during the hours of operations specified by the Wheaton Park District. Rules and regulations, plus safety tips, can be found at wheatonparkdistrict.com/outdoor-recreation-winter.

3) What hours will the rinks be available for skating?

The rinks open when weather permits. Open, unsupervised skating is available 8A-9:30P seven days a week. The warming shelter and portable restroom trailer are available Friday (4:30-9:30P), Saturday (1-9:30P), and Sunday (1-6P). Warming shelter hours may be extended during school breaks and will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day. See the specific hours at wheatonparkdistrict.com/outdoor-recreation-winter.

4) Will the ice rinks be supervised?

A staff member will be available onsite during expected high-volume days: Friday night (4:30-9:30P), Saturday (1-9:30P), and Sunday (1-6P) to open the warming shelter and portable restroom trailer and to enforce safety protocol and rink rules. Staff will also be onsite during school holiday breaks December 26-30, January 2-3, January 16-17, February 20, and March 3. There will not be onsite safety supervision Monday through Thursday, with the exception of school holiday breaks. No staff will be available on holidays.

5) Where are the ice rinks?

The rinks are located at the Central Athletic Complex (formerly Hubble Middle School) at 500 S. Naperville Rd., just north of Roosevelt Rd. between Main St. and Naperville Rd. The rinks are located on the west side of the building near the multipurpose outdoor fields.

We recommend entering the ice skating area from E. Illinois St. on the north side of the rinks.

6) How much does it cost to skate?

Open skating is free! No admission required.

7) Can I rent skates onsite?

Skate rentals are not available onsite, but skates are required to enter the rinks.

Skates can be purchased at:

 Wear & Share Sport in Wheaton
wear-sharesport.com | 123 E. Wesley St.

If you need your skates sharpened, John's Shoe Repair (309 S. Main St.) offers this service.

8) Is there an age restriction?

There is no age restriction for skating, but children 12 years and younger must be actively supervised by a responsible person 16 years of age and older.

Please also consider your health before skating. Pregnant persons or those with medical conditions are advised to exercise extreme caution.

9) Is there seating for spectators?

A mobile mini warming trailer with benches will be onsite throughout the season for spectators and for skaters putting on and taking off skates. The warming shelter area will be available Friday (4:30-9:30P), Saturday (1-9:30P), and Sunday (1-6P). If you're actively supervising a child on the ice, we ask for the responsible person to stand by the rink or be on the ice with the child.

10) Where can I park?

We recommend parking in the parking garage located at Willow St. and Cross Ave., just north of the complex. wheatonparkdistrict.com/outdoor-recreation-winter

11) Are there restrooms available?

Yes, a portable restroom trailer will be onsite and offers an ADA-accessible restroom. These will be locked when staff is not onsite. During this time, a standard portable restroom will be available.

12) Are food and beverage allowed at the rink?

Food and beverage are allowed at the Central Athletic Complex, but no food or beverage may be brought onto the ice. Please clean up after yourself using the onsite garbage cans.

13) Is there a concession stand onsite?

No. Mariano's is located next door to the complex and does offer a coffee bar, to-go food options, hot beverages, and snacks.

14) Can the rinks be used for hockey?

Yes. Pickup hockey games are first-come, first-served. Hockey may **ONLY** be played on the smaller rink. Before hockey can start, the ice must be totally free of open skaters. Please be considerate of those looking to join in the game. All ages and abilities are welcome.

The larger rink will **ALWAYS** be reserved for open skate, in which no hockey sticks or pucks are allowed.

15) How often is the ice resurfaced?

The Wheaton Park District Parks Services Department will resurface and groom the ice as needed. This will be determined by traffic on the ice. Ice resurfacing intermissions may take place at any time during public sessions and are usually every few hours, based on crowd size. All skaters must leave the ice while it is being groomed and are not allowed back on until grooming is complete.

16) How do I find out about weather-related interruptions or closures?

The daily status of the rinks can be found on the Wheaton Park District Rainout Line (rainoutline.com/search/dnis/6304101028) and onsite, indicated by a **Green (open)** flag or **Red (closed)** flag.

17) What type of clothing should I wear?

Ice skating is an outdoor activity and our rink is in the open. We advise patrons to dress warmly and appropriately for the weather.

18) What do I do with personal belongings?

There are no lockers or storage locations onsite. The Wheaton Park District is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Only essential items that can stay on your person should be brought to the ice skating complex. All additional items should be left at home or locked safely in your car.

19) What if I don't know how to skate?

It's never too late to learn! Visit wheatonparkdistrict.com/outdoor-winter-recreation for first-time skater tips, or consider registering for ice skating classes. You can see our full list of sessions [here](#).

Reference for Skating Tips = realbuzz.com/articles/top-10-ice-skating-tips-for-beginners/

22) Are pets allowed?

Pets are welcome to the complex, but absolutely no pets are allowed on the ice. They're not to be left unattended under any circumstance and must remain on a leash at all times. The police will be called if a pet is found unattended in the park.

23) I am in a wheelchair; can I go out on the ice?

Wheelchairs are welcome on the ice. You will need to be accompanied by an aide able to walk the ice in rubber-cleated spikes or skate with you in ice skates.

24) Are smoking and alcoholic beverages allowed onsite?

Per Wheaton Park District Park Ordinance, no smoking or alcoholic beverages of any type are allowed on the property of the Central Athletic Complex. Those found not complying are subject to prosecution to the full extent of the law, including fines.

25) Is the Central Athletic Complex Building open during skating hours?

The Central Athletic Complex Building will be open for regularly scheduled programming and practices. It will not be open outside these times.

26) Can I rent one of the rinks?

Renting of the ice is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Rentals are only available on Sundays (January through March) at 8:30A, 10A, and 11:30A in one-hour increments. Cost is \$300 per hour. Contact Mary Beth Cleary at mbcleary@wheatonparks.org or 630.510.5130 for more information or to reserve your space.

27) I have another question not listed above.**Who can I contact?**

For questions regarding the rules, regulations, and use of the ice, contact the Community Center Front Desk at 630.690.4880.

