

Embracing Six More Weeks of Winter

Legend has it that Punxsutawney Phil emerged from his burrow and saw his shadow this week on February 2nd, Groundhog Day. Therefore, it's said that he will go back into hibernation and we should expect six more weeks of winter. Rather than hiding from the cold, let's embrace it! In Minnesota we should expect *at least* 6 more weeks of winter, right?

One of my favorite commercials from last year's Super Bowl was of Bill Murray driving a Jeep and reliving Groundhog Day. Playing off the 1993 film, Murray's character "Phil" relives the same day over and over again until he gets it right. Similar to the movie, many of us have experienced the feeling of living in a time loop with many days recurring in exactly the same way.

Need ideas to try something new and avoid the winter blues? It may be time to explore and get out of your comfort zone. Here are a few enjoyable activities to expand your mind and get outdoors.

10 Winter Activities in Waconia

1. **Rent a Fish House on Lake Waconia** from In Towne Marina
2. Go **Bowling** at Garage Bar & Bowl
3. Relax and **Watch a Movie** at Emagine Theatre
4. Take a **walk or snowshoe** out to Coney Island
5. Visit current **Museum Exhibits** at the Carver County Historical Society
6. **Ice Skate** at the Waconia Ice Arena
7. Play a new **Game** or find a **Puzzle** at Mystic Fortress Games
8. Read a **good book** from the Waconia Public Library
9. **Bike/Hike** the Monarch Singletrack Trail, recommended by SPOKES
10. Try **sledding** down Mount Waconia at Lake Waconia Regional Park

There are also opportunities in the area to rent cross country skis or participate in dog sled events. Remember to focus on the small things you love about winter. "Anything different is good." -Phil, Groundhog Day

Embrace the season.

-Christine