

# In the Woods

*Where nature still comes first*

## STOPPING BY (THE) WOODS ON A SNOWY EVENING

Winter means different things to people. For many, it's a time to enjoy family and friends during the holiday festivities. For others, it's all about winter activities: snowshoeing, skiing, and ice fishing! Still others see winter as a time to slow down and reflect, curling up with a good book by the fire. Of course, the cold temperatures and snow can make your simplest tasks more challenging. This newsletter lists winter activities, reminders and some safety tips so that we may all enjoy our winter season.



## HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING DOCKTAILS

This year instead of a caroling hayride (whose idea was that anyway?), a tree lighting ceremony was enjoyed at the new access area. Caroling was done by the warmth of a bonfire. Then we moved indoors for the actual cocktails.

## SNOW PLOWING

We try our best to keep the roads plowed and covered with anti skid when necessary. However, please be careful driving on snow and ice covered roads. One person has already run off the road (40ft off the road)! Luckily neither person nor vehicle was hurt. Also, please use caution when passing a snow plow. It is especially difficult to spot vehicles approaching in low light conditions when we are backing up.

## ICE SAFETY

Every December some crazy ice fisherman is out on the lake just days after it has frozen over. Then the kids start asking if they can go on the lake and you wonder if it really is thick enough yet.

Wikihow.com has two useful links for your review. [Wikihow.com/When-Ice-Is-Safe](http://Wikihow.com/When-Ice-Is-Safe) and [Wikihow.com/Rescue-Someone-Who-Has-Fallen-Through-Ice](http://Wikihow.com/Rescue-Someone-Who-Has-Fallen-Through-Ice).

First and foremost, have an emergency plan in place and never go out alone.

Clear blue ice is the strongest. It takes three inches to safely hold a single person, four inches to hold a group of people and five inches to hold a snowmobile. The only way to tell how thick ice is, of course, is to cut a hole with a chisel or auger. Start near shore and make several



**Snowmen fall from  
heaven... unassembled.**

*~Author Unknown*

test cuts as you go out about every 150 feet. Every body of water will have inconsistencies because of water currents, springs and changes in water depth. Don't assume all areas are safe because one area is safe. Snow cover can complicate things as well. Not only does it keep you from visually checking the ice for inconsistencies, it also acts as an insulator and can inhibit ice formation. On really cold days, you are likely to hear the ice pinging and rumbling. Sometimes you'll even see long cracks developing. That makes a lot of people nervous. But if the ice is thick enough to hold you safely, don't panic. Those rumblings and crackings are the sound of pressure being relieved as more ice forms beneath the surface. The ice is actually getting safer! In the event that you do fall through the ice the first rule is not to panic. Take slow deep breaths. Try to get your arms up on the ice from the spot you initially walked out from. Kick your legs up behind you to get yourself horizontal and pull with arms. Stay down on your belly. Once out, roll back the way you came.

At the time this newsletter was sent Duck Harbor Pond's ice thickness was over 10". It will usually freeze up to 30". But please be aware, there are areas of inconsistencies, like over by the horse farm where there is a spring and it never quite freezes. Duck Harbor Pond is a beautiful part of every winter. Enjoy it, but enjoy it safely.



### HONESDALE WINE & SPIRITS STORE WILL REMAIN OPEN

The borough of Honesdale has received some holiday cheer from the state Liquor Control Board (LCB). The state owned and operated Wine and Spirits Store on Main Street in Honesdale will not be shut down. When word got out about the LCB's plan to move the store to Route 6 Mall, officials at the Greater Honesdale Partnership (GHP) and shop owners said it would have a harmful effect on other businesses along the busy strip. GHP president Jeff Hiller said that their decision is a "wonderful, wonderful thing" for Honesdale, "It's a huge Christmas gift to the town."

### CELL TOWER IN DAMASCUS IS COMPLETE

The second cell tower in Damascus is finally complete. After initial slow downs over zoning and then back order issues over critical parts Wireless Edge Communications finished the tower the week of December 5th. Cellular One will be the carrier of the cell phone systems. Let's hope it will help our service in The Woods.

### HOME & GARDEN FESTIVAL

Location: Camp Ladore & Conference Center  
Time: Apr 30, 2011@10:00 AM to May 1, 2011@6:00 PM

*GPS Coordinates:  
N41° 34.051', W075° 24.1852'*

If you have plans for your home, big or small, this is the event for you! The Wayne County Builders Association in the past has sponsored a builder's show, but last year they put together an amazing Home & Garden Festival. Last year's event brought in over 100 vendors. Represented at the show are not just builders, but remodelers, landscapers and home decorators. Get insight from the best in Northeast PA. Admission is free. There will be seminars and demonstrations. Live music is provided and the Carousel Dining Hall will be open with plenty of food. Don't miss the popular LEGO competition for the kids. Check [waynecountybuilder.com](http://waynecountybuilder.com) for upcoming details.



*Curtsey of John Smith*

### BOBCATS ON THE RISE

Tawny, tireless, smooth-moving and shy, bobcats are truly beautiful animals. Few people ever actually see a bobcat; spotting one in the wild is a tremendous thrill.



### Resident Recommendations

*Area stores, restaurants and activities recommended by the residents of The Woods.*

#### Bistro 1202 Restaurant (Wayne Hotel)

Offers very creative and classic American food. The same menu is served in the restaurant, lounge and outdoor porch. Guests enjoy their hotel lounge which features turn of the century décor (19th Century!) and an excellent selection of beer and wine in a comfortable setting. Call: 570-253-3290 for reservations.

#### 20th Annual Ice Tee Golf Tournament

Location: Ehrhardt's Waterfront  
Time: Jan 30, 2011 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. 9 holes of golf on frozen Lake Wallenpaupack.  
Check out [www.hawleywallenpaupackcc.com](http://www.hawleywallenpaupackcc.com)

#### Brew Shoe

January 15, 2011  
Hike the beautiful trails of Prompton and then quench your thirst at the Historic Hotel Wayne. Meet at the Hotel Wayne at 12:00 p.m. To be at Prompton trails by 1:00 p.m. After the snowshoe hike, they will meet back at Hotel Wayne for the tasty brews paired with food by 4:00 p.m. \$65 all inclusive rate (guided hike, snowshoe rentals, food and brews) \$43 without snowshoe rentals  
Check out [www.newwildernessexperience.com](http://www.newwildernessexperience.com)

#### Antler Ridge Wine Tasting Snowshoe

Three events to choose from.  
On January 5th and February 23rd, meet at the Hotel Wayne in Honesdale at 12:00 p.m. To be at Prompton trails by 1:00 p.m. On January 19th, meet at Hawley's Cocoon Coffee Shop at 12:00 p.m. and head for Shuman's Point for the snowshoe hike. End with a FREE wine tasting at the nearby Antler Ridge Winery! \$40 per person with snowshoe rentals \$18 per person without snowshoe rental. Check out [www.newwildernessexperience.com](http://www.newwildernessexperience.com)

*Is there a story, photo or area recommendation that you would like added to the community newsletter? Please don't hesitate to contact us at [jayharcum@duckharborgroup.com](mailto:jayharcum@duckharborgroup.com)*