

ABC's of Toboggan Hills

Tobogganing is an activity that many Canadian children look forward to every winter. To make sure you protect riders, and yourself, we've put together some simple guidelines you may want to follow.

Alcohol should be forbidden

Bales of hay should be placed at all impact points

Close the hill after an ice storm

Discourage mechanical means of climbing the hill – scarves can become entangled

Encourage the wearing of helmets

Frozen bodies of water, roads and parking lots are not good end points for toboggan runs

Ground surface should be even with no rocks, trees, brush or knolls on the hill

Hours of use should be clearly defined

Inspect the area regularly and document all inspections and maintenance

Jumps and ramps should not be allowed in sledding areas

Keeep garbage off the hill by providing waste receptacles

Lighting should be provided if the hills are open at night

Mark the safe areas for tobogganing

Not everyone has a cell phone - where is the nearest telephone in the event of an accident

On busy days provide spotters at the top and the bottom of the hill

Parking area should be large enough to accommodate the vehicles but far enough away from the hill

Quality toboggan runs can only be achieved through a system of inspection, maintenance, appropriate signage and public education

Rules of Conduct should be posted at the entrance to the hill

School assemblies are a great way to educate kids and parents on toboggan safety

Twelve inches of covered snow on a hill is recommended before the hill is opened

Unsupervised hills should have signs stating this fact

Vandals can cause damage so regular inspections are important

Waivers should be considered for special events such as school outings

X'act run lengths are difficult to measure but it's recommended that hills have run-offs long enough for a natural stop

You own the property, so you are liable

Zone your hills i.e. Forbidden; Age Appropriate; All Levels Welcome