

THRIVE THROUGH WINTER



Your Checklist to Thrive Through Winter in Minnesota

Welcome to Minnesota! With any relocation, there are many moving parts as families transition their lives somewhere new—one of them being your first Minnesota winter. The following list will help set your family on a path to thrive, not just survive, through your new favorite season here.

Gear

- Winter coat (the longer, the better!): Columbia, Canada Goose, The North Face, Eddie Bauer, Patagonia
- Winter boots: The North Face, Sorel, Timberland, Hunter, Bogs
- Water-resistant winter gloves and mittens
- Winter hats: Love Your Melon, founded by Zach Quinn '11
- Insulated food/beverage containers
- Warm, long-lasting socks: Hippy Feet, founded by Sam Harper '12
- Various outdoor gear and equipment: Askov Finlayson, where Adam Fetcher '02 led the company's climate policy initiative, "Keep The North Cold"
- A car with all-wheel drive
- Warm blanket to keep in your car in case of a winter emergency
- Windshield wiper brush with scraper

Activities

- Sledding, skiing, snowboarding, and snowshoeing at local parks, trails and mountains: Afton Alps, Theodore Wirth Regional Park, Minnehaha Park, Battle Creek Regional Park, Lake Elmo Park Reserve, and many more!
- Ice skating on many of the 10,000 lakes
- Watching several winter professional sports teams with arenas in the Twin Cities
- Visiting indoor museums, theatres, and water and amusement parks in or near the Mall of America
- Attending many local wintertime festivals

At MPA

- Middle and Upper School Alpine (downhill) Ski Team
- Middle and Upper School Nordic (cross country) Ski Team
- Boys Hockey Team
- Grade level outdoor adventures, such as snow tubing
- Northern MN i-Term adventures, such as dogsledding
- Winter experiments in the outdoor learning labs
- Sno Daze Spirit Week

Helpful Terms & Tips

- Snow emergency: declared after a snowfall of more than two inches. In case of a school closure, MPA will send an email, text message, and phone call to your phone number on file.
- Snow route parking ban: A temporary parking restriction on roads designated as snow routes.
- Wind chill advisory: wind chill temperatures can be dangerous with prolonged exposure
- Indoor recess: MPA stays indoors at -10 degrees windchill
- Winter Storm Warning: hazardous winter weather in the form of heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet
- Hotdish: A Minnesota staple meal guaranteed to warm you up!