



Steve Martin USA World Champion, playing in the Uinta's.
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Snowmobiling

Evanston is a perfect base for exploring 80 miles of groomed snowmobile trails on the north slope of the Uinta Mountains. There are also more than 165,000 acres of U.S. Forest Service land open to snowmobiling. A small daily fee is charged for using the area along the Mirror Lake Highway. Local companies rent, repair and sell snowmobiles, in addition to offering snowmobile tours. Another nearby area with excellent snowmobiling is Monte Cristo near Randolph, Utah.

Ice Skating

In the late 1890s, the Union Pacific Railroad diverted the Bear River into two ponds where ice was harvested to cool produce being shipped across the country. Those historic ponds now are used for ice skating. The area is lighted and skating is free. Skates can be rented at Evanston's Recreation Center. To get to the ice ponds from the downtown area, take Front Street to Bear River Drive. Go under the railroad tracks and look for a brown sign on the right pointing to the "River Walk." Follow that road to the ice ponds.

Sledding

The most popular sledding hill in Evanston is behind the visitor's center at Bear River State Park, where you will also find picnic shelters and restrooms. While there look for bison and elk in the pastures.

Cross-Country Skiing

Groomed trails are found at three areas in town: Purple Sage Golf Course, Aspen Elementary School and Bear River State Park. Use of these areas is free. A more extensive system of trails is maintained at the Lily Lake Cross-Country Ski Area, located 30 miles south of Evanston in the Uinta Mountains. A small daily fee is charged to park in the Lily Lake area. Equipment can be rented at the Purple Sage Golf Course Nordic Center. Contact the center for hours of operation and costs.

Yurts

Five of these heated and insulated tents have been erected in the Lily Lake area. Each one sleeps up to eight visitors. Access to these remote sites is by skis, snowshoes or snowmobile. Reservations are required. Contact the Evanston Recreation Center for more information.



Photo by: Evanston City Parks and Recreation



Photo by: D. Tomiyasu

Dog Sled Races

Some of the world's best dogs and riders pass through Evanston each winter during the International Pedigree Stage Stop Dog Sled Race from Jackson Hole, Wyoming, to Park City, Utah. It usually is in late January or early February.

Ice Fishing

Sulphur Creek Reservoir, located about 10 miles south of town, is an excellent place for ice fishing. The Evanston Lions Club sponsors an ice-fishing derby each February that attracts over 1,000 participants.

Sleigh Rides

Area ranchers are starting to offer rides on horse-drawn sleighs. Check with the Evanston Chamber of Commerce for an updated list of offerings.

Wildlife Viewing

Winter is a great time to look for wildlife because there are no leaves on the trees. Look for moose, bald eagles and deer along the rivers. Large herds of pronghorn antelope are seen frequently in the sagebrush, along with groups of elk. Keep your eyes open for foxes, coyotes and sage grouse, too.