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ELK HAS GREAT SNOW and IS CLOSE to HOME

UNION DALE, PA — It all started in 1959, when a mountain became a new recreation complex for skiing. Elk Mountain, as it was named, started out with only a handful of trails. Today Elk Mountain Ski Resort has evolved into a sprawling 27 trails and some of the most challenging terrain in Pennsylvania. During its opening year, Elk featured a small base lodge (now the picnic lodge), a 2,200-foot T-bar and several slopes. There were also some rope tows and a small warming hut built a few years earlier by the Scranton Ski Club.

The first Hall double chair was installed in 1961, heralding the development of five expert trails and various intermediate trails from the top. Elk's first expert trail, completed before the chairlift itself, was host to the 1960 Pennsylvania State Championships. Enthusiastic competitors and gatekeepers actually walked to the summit from the top of the T-bar to run the race.

A year later in 1962, snowmaking was installed and a new A-frame base lodge was built. Skiing at Elk got a lift - quite literally - with the installation of a beginners J-bar in 1964 and a double chairlift from the lower parking lot to the top of the mountain in 1965. The original T-bar was replaced with a chair-lift in 1969, and the J-bar was retired for a double chairlift in 1973. Skiers saw Elk in a whole new light when, in 1966, lighting was installed on the East and West slopes for night skiing. Lighting was installed along three summit trails in 1972. Now a number of trails are lit for night skiing, including the entire

Elk Mountain continued to build on that legacy of great skiing when it upgraded its snowmaking ability by adding tower mount snow guns on the Tecumseh trail. Additional guns were also placed on Stomping Grounds Terrain Park. These guns helped to ensure better coverage in the most challenging ski

From the recently upgraded and resurfaced parking lots to the more than 1,000 Norway and White Spruce trees that were planted slopeside, your Elk experience is always a pleasant and environmentally friendly one from arrival to departure.

First-time skiers, established skiers, or snowboarders looking to learn or fine-tune their skills can do so with a lesson from a member of the Elk Mountain Ski School.

The school is a member of the Professional Ski Instructors of America (PSIA) and utilizes the American Teaching System. With a staff of more than 75 trained instructors, Elk has a program and the staff to meet your individual needs.

Class sizes are limited to provide a quality experience. Lessons may be sold out during busy periods. Details are always available at the ski school desk.

The perfect time to learn to ski is while you are young, and the staff wants to make your child's skiing experience fun. They offer programs that allow parents to enjoy themselves while children learn to ski with confidence.

REFINE YOUR SKILLS PROGRAMS

Junior Racing

Elk Mountain's Junior Racing is a program geared for young skiers (8-19) who can comfortably ski the entire mountain, including all black diamond trails. Offered during Christmas Camp, weekends or as a full season program, this program allows the participants to ski/train with the same coaches over the duration of the program.

This format assures continuity and allows progress to be monitored closely. Training is available at recreational and competitive levels.

Adult Skiing Improvement
Adult Skiing Improvement is a learning experience for strong adult skiers. The program is offered on Saturdays and Sundays, from January through February (excluding holidays); 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m (2.5 hours per day). This will allow the participant to be admin ticipants to ski and train with the same coaches over the duration of the entire program, providing continuity and learning in a relaxed, unhurried environment. There are a minimum number of participants required for this program.

Please call Elk Mountain at 1-800-233-4131

For more information, please find them online via an easily found link in the Pa. section of the Great Resorts page www.skiernews.com or you can log on directly to www.elkskier.com

BEAR CREEK HAS DISCOUNTED MIDWEEK SKI and STAY DEALS to PLEASE YOUR BUDGET

MACUNGIE, PA – Bear Creek Mountain Resort, located on over 330 acres in scenic

parks, and 10 lanes of side-by-side snowtubing fun for the entire family.

Berks County, Pa., is offering an incredible value on midweek ski and stay visits. When you stay midweek, you receive will overnight accommodations, two Extended Day ski lift tickets for your day of arrival, two Extended Day lift tickets for the following day, 40 percent off rental equipment and

40 percent off Discovery lessons at the Snow Sports School. The pricing for the overnight accommodations will be based on the room type.

Budget minded ski and stay midweek packages at Bear Creek are valid Sunday through Thursdays, non-holidays. They are based on availability and not valid holiday periods. Please see the ad on the right for details and mention MSKI to receive the deal.

Ski and stay participants will have access to various resort amenities, including indoor and outdoor heated pools and hot tubs, The Spa at Bear Creek and three dining facilities. Dining options include The Grille at Bear Creek, a full service restaurant and bar; the Trail's End Café, featuring cafe style dining, along with a bar; and the Mountain Eatery, a traditional cafeteria located in the Lodge.

Bear Creek offers a 116-room hotel with panoramic slope views, located at the base of the mountain just steps from the chair lifts. It features 21 trails for skiing and snowboarding ranging from beginner to expert, terrain



MACUNGIE, PA - Close to the Philly metro area and all of Northeast PA, the trails at Bear Creek lead to their beautiful hotel and conference center. See ad and book a midweek discount deal, or visit for a fun day trip. Photo courtesy of Bear Creek Mountain Resort and Conference Center

The resort is conveniently located in the Mid-Atlantic region, just 60 minutes from Philadelphia, 90 minutes from Wilmington, 2 hours from New York City and 2.5 hours from Baltimore.

The budget minded midweek ski and stay packages are available Sunday through Thursday and exclude the Bear Creek holiday periods of Dec. 24, 2015, through Jan. 2 2016; Jan. 17 through Jan. 14, 2015; and Feb. 14, 2016. You must mention the promo code MSKI in order to receive this deal.

For reservations, please contact the beautiful Bear Creek Mountain Resort toll free at 1-866-754-2822.

You can log on to Bear Creek's website via a link on the Great Resorts page at www.skiernews.com/GreatResorts.htm

You can also read this exact page online and link directly to Bear Creek from www.skiernews.net /PA2016-Elk-Bear.pdf

Please find additional details online at www.bcmountainresort.com





Ski & Stay Package Includes:

- Overnight accommodation (cost based on room type)
- 2 Extended Day lift tickets for day of arrival (Monday-Thursday non-holiday*)
- · 2 Extended Day lift tickets for the following day
- 40% off Rental Equipment**
- 40% off Discovery lessons

Packages are based on availability for stays from Sunday through Thursday. Not valid during blackout dates of 12/24/15 through 1/2/16, Sunday 1/17/16 and Sunday 2/14/16.

*Guests arriving on Sundays, MLK Monday (1/18/16) and President's Day Monday (2/15/16) receive 2 complimentary Evening lift tickets. You can upgrade to an Extended Day lift ticket for \$35 per person. Based on double occupancy. Any additional skiers are \$59.00 per person (includes two extended day lift tickets.)

> **The Hotel has an equipment rental shop and equipment check room exclusively for the convenience and use by hotel guests.

Call 1.866.754.2822 to book your ski and stay vacation or visit us online at MidWeekSkiAndStay.com. When booking, please mention promo code: MSKI

101 Doe Mountain Lane | Macungie, PA 18062 | 866.754.2822 | bcmr.com