 <p>THE CORPORATION COUNTY OF BRANT</p> <p>OF THE</p>	POLICY/Procedure #
County of Brant	Effective Date: January 6, 2014
Outdoor Winter Activities Policy	Revision Date: January 2, 2014
	Page 1 of 7

## 1.0 Policy Statement

- 1.1 The purpose of the policy is to approve criteria that will clearly establish which municipal properties will permit or prohibit tobogganing and outdoor community rinks
- 1.2 The policy prohibits recreational use at stormwater management ponds.
- 1.3 The policy includes signage to be installed in relation to tobogganing areas, outdoor community rinks and stormwater management ponds.

The policy outlines;

- i) Criteria for establishing tobogganing and outdoor community rink locations
- ii) Rationale to prohibit recreational use year round at stormwater management ponds
- iii) Signage regarding operations, code of conduct
- iv) Communication Protocols


1.2 This policy allows for the establishment of Outdoor Community Rinks through cooperative measures with local community volunteers when a need has been identified and certain criteria have been met.

## 2.0 Scope or Applicability

This policy applies to anyone using County of Brant municipal parks and properties for recreational use and Volunteer Teams.

## 3.0 Definitions

- 3.1 County: the Corporation of the County of Brant
- 3.2 Outdoor Community Rink: a natural outdoor ice surface that is operated and maintained by a volunteer team
- 3.3 Tobogganing Area: Open space in parks or on municipally owned property that is a sloped section of land used for tobogganing
- 3.4 Park: any land owned, leased or controlled by the County, designated or used as parkland or as a trail, including gardens, playgrounds, sports fields or waterfront properties
- 3.5 Volunteer Team: consists of a team of 3 or more adults that are individual citizens or as a group, association, service club union or other legal entity, which may be able to be bound to this policy.
- 3.6 Stormwater Management Pond: is a facility designed to collect and retain storm water.

<p>THE CORPORATION COUNTY OF BRANT</p>  <p>OF THE</p>	<p>POLICY/Procedure #</p>
<p>County of Brant</p>	<p>Effective Date: January 6, 2014</p>
<p>Outdoor Winter Activities Policy</p>	<p>Revision Date: January 2, 2014</p>
	<p>Page 2 of 7</p>

4.0 Objectives

- 4.1 To establish criteria to approve designated areas for outdoor activities.
- 4.2 To facilitate safe use of parks and municipal properties while engaging in outdoor activities, through the establishment of posted codes of conduct and effective risk management practices.
- 4.3 To establish and communicate protocols relating to outdoor winter activities.


5.0 Criteria for the Establishment of Tobogganing Locations

- 5.1 Access for emergency vehicles.
- 5.2 Accessibility for community users.
- 5.3 Hills with a gentle slope of 40 degrees or less.
- 5.4 Ground surface is even and the hill is free of obstructions along the sled paths (stumps, roots, bumps, rocks, etc). If obstructions cannot be removed, install straw bales around any possible impact point to protect sliders.
- 5.5 Hills should have run-offs long enough for a natural stop.
- 5.6 Hills should not end near roads, parking lots, fences, treelines, other obstructions or bodies of water.
- 5.7 The primary use of the property shall be for recreational activities.

6.0 Criteria for Community Outdoor Rink Locations

- 6.1 Within an existing park.
- 6.2 Reasonably flat surface, free from mounds, heaves or other irregularities.
- 6.3 Surface must be free of stones and other debris.
- 6.3 Suitable water source and storage.
- 6.4 Access for emergency vehicles.
- 6.5 Accessibility for community users.
- 6.6 Formation of Volunteer Team.
- 7.0 Stormwater Management Ponds

- 7.1 Fluctuating water flows into the pond causes potentially unsafe conditions, therefore, no activity including skating and fishing will be permitted on stormwater management ponds.
- 7.2 Stormwater Warning Signs to be Posted.


THE CORPORATION COUNTY OF BRANT		OF THE	POLICY/Procedure #
County of Brant			Effective Date: January 6, 2014
Outdoor Winter Activities Policy			Revision Date: January 2, 2014
			Page 3 of 7



## 8.0 Tobogganing Area Signs to be Posted

8.1 Areas that are approved shall have signs posted in the general vicinity describing;

- This is an Unsupervised Toboggan Area, parental supervision is recommended for children
- The Use of Safety Helmets are Strongly Recommended
- Hours of Operation: 8 am to Dusk
- Do not use with less than 6” or 15 cm of snow or after an ice storm
- Have only the recommended number of passengers on a sled at one time
- Wait until path is clear before starting down the hill
- Do not build jumps or use jumps
- Always sit or kneel facing forward.
- Quickly get out of the way when you reach the bottom

<p>THE CORPORATION COUNTY OF BRANT</p>	 <p>POLICY/Procedure #</p>
<p>County of Brant</p>	<p>Effective Date: January 6, 2014</p>
<p>Outdoor Winter Activities Policy</p>	<p>Revision Date: January 2, 2014</p>
	<p>Page 4 of 7</p>

- Keep to the side of the hill away from the slide paths when climbing back up the hill
- Alcohol consumption is prohibited
- Unsafe or hazardous activities can result in eviction from the property

Call 911 in case of Emergency. The address is \_\_\_\_\_

The nearest public telephone is located at \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any concerns or see a problem call: \_\_\_\_\_  
or Email: [parksandrec@brant.ca](mailto:parksandrec@brant.ca)

After hours problems can be reported to the OPP at 1-888-310-1122

- 8.2 Prohibited Locations - Signs to be posted, By-Law information to be included if in a park.

No Tobogganing in this Area



County of Brant  
By-Law 225-04

9.0 Outdoor Community Rink Signs to be Posted

- 9.1 Signs to be posted at all active outdoor rink locations

Outdoor rinks operate from approximately Christmas until March, weather permitting.

THE CORPORATION COUNTY OF BRANT		POLICY/Procedure #
County of Brant	Effective Date: January 6, 2014	
Outdoor Winter Activities Policy	Revision Date: January 2, 2014	
	Page 5 of 7	

- This is an UNSUPERVISED Outdoor Community Rink maintained by volunteers
- Parental supervision is recommended for children
  
- Hours of Operation: Unlit rinks- 8 am to Dusk Lit rinks - 8 am - 11 pm
- Snow clearing shall be done by volunteers and users
- Check for holes, cracks and debris before skating
- No mechanical resurfacing will be done at this site
- USE AT YOUR OWN RISK
- Wear the gear!  
Helmets, knee pads and elbow pads are strongly recommended as serious injury may occur

Code of Conduct

- No chairs, sleds, strollers or other devices/equipment are permitted on the ice
- No headsets, cell phones or hand held devices are to be used on the ice
- No food or drink on the ice
- Alcohol consumption is prohibited
- Respect your Outdoor Community Rink and keep it clean. Please use the garbage cans.
- Respect other Skaters, share the rink between hockey and recreational skaters during designated times (To be posted at each location)


Call 911 in case of Emergency. The address is \_\_\_\_\_

The nearest public telephone is located at \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any concerns or see a problem call: \_\_\_\_\_  
or Email: parksandrec@brant.ca

After hours problems can be reported to the OPP at 1-888-310-1122

- 9.2 Open and Closed signs to be posted when ice quality is acceptable or unacceptable.

<p>THE CORPORATION COUNTY OF BRANT</p>  <p>OF THE</p>	<p>POLICY/Procedure #</p>
<p>County of Brant</p>	<p>Effective Date: January 6, 2014</p>
<p>Outdoor Winter Activities Policy</p>	<p>Revision Date: January 2, 2014</p>
	<p>Page 6 of 7</p>

10.0 Communication Protocols


- 10.1 Approved locations for tobogganing and outdoor community rinks will be posted at the property, on the County website and published in the Community Services Guide.
- 10.2 Volunteer Teams will apply to the Area Parks and Facilities /Supervisors/ Manager to establish an Outdoor Community Rink in their local park. Volunteers are responsible for all duties outlined in the Outdoor Community Rink Operating Manual.
- 10.3 County staff will inspect tobogganing areas and Outdoor Community Rinks on a regular basis when they are operational. Inspections shall be conducted relating to weather conditions.
- 10.4 Public updates regarding outdoor winter activities shall be posted through the Facebook account for County of Brant - Parks and Recreation.
- 10.5 Public Education about tobogganing safety shall be included on the County's website as well as the Community Services Leisure Guide.
- 10.6 The link to Safe Kids Canada shall be posted on the County website for reference. (<http://www.safekidscanada.ca>)
- 10.7 Signs will be posted at storm water management ponds stating prohibited activities.

11.0 Responsibility

- 11.1 Community Services staff will be responsible for the installation of signs and maintenance and inspection of all approved tobogganing areas and outdoor rinks.
- 11.2 For all locations that have signs that prohibit tobogganing, the appropriate department that the property is maintained by, will be responsible for monitoring the property and contacting the OPP for enforcement when necessary.

12.0 Related Documentation

- 12.1 Parks Use By-Law
- 12.2 Outdoor Community Rink Manual

THE CORPORATION COUNTY OF BRANT		POLICY/Procedure #
County of Brant	Effective Date: January 6, 2014	
Outdoor Winter Activities Policy	Revision Date: January 2, 2014	
	Page 7 of 7	

13.0 Review Cycle

13.1 This policy will be reviewed annually.

Appendix A - Approved Tobogganing and Community Rink Locations

Appendix B – Outdoor Community Rink Manual

Appendix A - Approved Tobogganing and Outdoor Community Rink Locations

**Tobogganing Locations**

Paris Area - Bemrose Park

St. George Area - King William Park

Brant West Area - Farrington Park (Belholme Crescent Area)

**Outdoor Community Rink Locations**

Paris Area - Syl Apps Community Centre, Optimist Park, Axton Park

St. George Area - Sunnyhill Park

Brant West Area - Mt. Pleasant Park, Farrington Park, Poplar Hills Park

Other locations can be approved once a Community Volunteer Team is formed.