

News Release

from the

Hiawatha National Forest

January 5, 2009

For Immediate Release

For more information, contact Anne Okonek at 474-6442 ext. 119

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY AND TRY SKIING AND SNOWSHOEING FOR FREE!

Have you ever wanted to try snowshoeing or cross country skiing but lacked the equipment or the instruction to do it? Well, the Delta County YMCA, together with Brampton Bike and Ski and the Hiawatha National Forest will have skis and snowshoes to use free of charge this weekend at the Rapid River National Cross Country Ski Trail!

Saturday January 10th is National Winter Trails Day, a day designated to encourage folks to get outdoors and enjoy nearby trails. To help folks get started, Brampton Bike and Ski will have cross country skis, boots and poles, as well as snowshoes available free of charge for the public to use at the Rapid River Ski Trail from noon until 4:00 PM. Equipment will be available for both adults as well as youngsters, and volunteers will be on hand to teach the fundamentals of both skiing and snowshoeing.

In order to ensure that adequate equipment and instructors are on hand, folks are asked to pre-register for the event by calling Brampton Bike by Friday at 428-2135.

The Rapid River National Cross Country Ski Trail is located 6 miles north of Rapid River on US 41 and includes 5 Nordic loops, 2 skating loops, and one snowshoe trail. Groomed entirely by volunteers, the ski trail is in outstanding condition. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help groom the trail, or if there are any questions about Saturday's event, they can call the Forest Service at 474-6442 x 119.

END