

## **Take the “Rails to the Trails” from Boston on the Wachusett Mountain Ski Train!**

*Includes Weekend Service from North Station to Fitchburg!*

PRINCETON, Ma. – Wachusett Mountain is already considered most accessible ski area in the eastern USA, according to SKI Magazine. Getting there is now even easier.

In conjunction with the **Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA)** and the **Massachusetts Bay Commuter Rail Company (MBCR)**, Wachusett Mountain features weekend commuter rail service to the mountain again this winter. Skiers and snowboarders from Boston can take the commuter rail from Boston’s North Station to nearby Fitchburg, MA on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the ski season.

The current scheduled weekend “ski train” service will leave North Station at 8:35 a.m. and arrive at the Fitchburg commuter rail station at 10:06 a.m. **Wachusett Mountain will then arrange to have customers picked up by a shuttle directly to the mountain**, approximately 20 minutes away. Wachusett will then shuttle customers back to the Fitchburg station for a 5:35 p.m. departure back to Boston, arriving at North Station at 7:00 p.m.

The Ski Train season service is scheduled to kick off Nov. 29 and will continue through the end of March. Each train includes a designated “ski” car that will allow for easy storage of ski or snowboard equipment.

“In this day of high gasoline prices, the ski train provides our Boston-area customers with an incredible option for public transportation to the mountain,” said David Crowley, Wachusett General Manager. “We hope the addition of a night train will be especially attractive to all the college students in the Boston area. There hasn’t been a transportation option available like this since the era of the gasoline shortages.”

Enthusiasm for the “ski train” was echoed by Daniel Grabauskas, general manager of the MBTA. “The combination of Wachusett Mountain and the MBTA in offering this service is a prime example of the benefits that can be attained by collaborative efforts,” he said.

“The ski train is an excellent opportunity to highlight the entire North Central Massachusetts region,” said Dave McKeegan, president of the Johnny Appleseed Trail Association, the local travel tourism trade group. “Tourism is an important segment of our local economy and this will not only help provide easy access to the mountain but give visitors a chance to spend the weekend.”

The “Ski Train” fare is only \$7.75 one-way (subject to change).

For details, visit [www.wachusett.com](http://www.wachusett.com) or [www.mbta.com](http://www.mbta.com).