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## **ELK CONTINUES GREAT PROGRAMS 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

Elk featured a small base lodge (now the picnic lodge), a 2,200-toot 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. Enthusias the competitors and gatekeepers actually welked to the summit from tic 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 Aframe 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 chairlift 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 large number of trails are lit for night skiing, including the entire beginner area.

UNIONDALE, PA - Elk Mountain's spacious Day Lodge serves great food at reasonable prices and is a fun aprés-ski spot for your group. Scan the QR in the ad to buy lift tickets online.

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 our grounds in the most shellowing driver also grounds. ter coverage in the most challenging ski seasons.

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 Atherical (PSIA) and utilizes the Atherical Teaching System. With a staff of approximately 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 so check online. Details are available at the ski school desk.

Photo courtesy Elk Mountain

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.

You can view, read and share this page online at: www.skiernews.com/East2024-ElkBear.pdf Scan the QR code above to buy tickets and ski school online. Please call Elk at 1-800-233-4131 or log on to: www.elkskier.com and get your Elk visit started online.

## **BEAR CREEK IS READY for** YOUR GREAT WINTER VISIT

MACUNGIE, PA - Get ready for increased rideable terrain, fresh corduroy and more as Bear Creek Mountain Resort welcomes guests back for the 2023-24 winter season featuring resort-wide upgrades and enhancements.

When Bear Creek first opened its doors in 1967, then known as Doe Mountain Ski Area, guests enjoyed a modest t-bar, rope tow, and just two trails. Today, 56 years later, Bear Creek has transformed into a complete snowsport destination resort with six lifts, 23 slopes, trails, and parks, a tubing hill, three restaurants, a full-service salon and spa, a 116-room hotel and more.

This transformation is a testament to Bear Creek's continued commitment to enhancing guest and employee experience across the resort, and this year was no different. With the completion of the new Vehicle Maintenance Building, the addition of a new groomer, a lighting expansion project, and the enhancement of snowmaking capabilities, the Bear Creek team is excited for this season.

The addition of the new groomer along with the completion of Bear Creek's new Vehicle Maintenance Building is a meaningful investment in the future of the resort. This new building will provide a safe and innovative workspace for the team to service Bear Creek's fleet of groomers, snowmobiles and other equipment, ensuring they are in top condition for the upcoming season and be-

This year the Bear Creek team also completed a lighting expansion project, adding additional lighting across the mountain. This project will allow guests to enjoy more ridable terrain from open to close this season. The resort also started phase one of their snowmaking pipe replacement project, while simultaneously expanding snowmaking capabilities with the addition of new snow guns.



MACUNGIE, PA - Bear Creek Mountain Resort is home not only to a great ski, snowboard and tubing mountain but also a great hotel and conference center. Photo courtesy Bear Creek Mountain Resort

"Each year we strive to enhance our guest experience across the resort," stated Gary Kline, Director of Guest Relations and Mar-'Whether that's through expanding and updating the resort's infrastructure to maintain the resort as a whole, or introducing reloadable RFID lift passes last year for guest convenience, we are dedicated to creating a memorable year-round destination for families in Pennsylvania and beyond.'

Bear Creek is a single owner resort that strives to create a family fun experience by keeping their guest experience at the helm. The team at Bear Creek Mountain Resort invites you to join them in Berks County, Pa., for some fun on the slopes. Take advantage of the resort's Ski-and-Stay hotel packages, offering discounted stays for the 2023-24 season. Just a short drive from Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington D.C., Bear Creek is the perfect place to hit the slopes this win-

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For more, please listen to the Bear Creek Mountain Resort podcast episodes, visit: www.AlwaysUpright.com and easily find them linked from the East section label.

Visit Bear Creek Mountain Resort directly at: www.BCMR.com or info@bcmr.com



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## BEAR CREEK MOUNTAIN RESORT

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