



NEWS RELEASE

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Mt. Ashland Announces Opening Day With Limited Terrain for the 2025/2026 Season

Mt. Ashland Ski Area is excited to announce it will open for the 2025/2026 winter season on **Monday, December 29th**, with limited terrain available.

On Opening Day, **Sonnet Chairlift, Lithia Chairlift, and the First Act Learning Carpet** will operate from **9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** A limited-time **\$18 Sonnet single-day lift ticket**, which includes access to Sonnet Chairlift, Lithia Chairlift and First Act, will be available for purchase online beginning **Saturday, December 27.**

Open terrain will include **Sonnet** for beginner and intermediate skiers and snowboarders. **Poma and Lupine** will be open for expert riders only, as snow coverage is thin and limited. The Ski Area would like to draw special attention to early-season conditions existing across the mountain, and warns that **any travel off groomed runs is recommended for experts only. Bumblebee will remain closed for a future grand opening this season, and Blossom's status is to be determined** as the Mountain approaches Opening Day. Additionally, the Team is working to have a small terrain park build ready to go for opening day on Lupine. All runs off **Comer, Windsor, and Ariel**, along with those chairlifts, will remain closed until sufficient snowfall allows for the opening of that terrain.

"It's a late winter, so we got creative to open for the holidays," said Andrew Gast, General Manager of Mt. Ashland Ski Area. "I'm proud of our team for staying patient, focused, and committed to this community—now we get to share some turns together."

Guests will notice several exciting upgrades this season, including **additional LED night lighting on Lithia Chairlift and the expansion of Twilight Skiing terrain to include Lupine and Poma** in preparation for **Twilight Skiing beginning January 8**, as well as the **newly paved Karen & Sid DeBoer Lodge guest plaza** and new directional signage inside The Lodge. All core services will be available on Opening Day in varying capacities, with **lessons, rentals, and the Siskiyou Mountain retail shop fully open**, while the **T-Bar Lounge and Gemütlichkeit Grill** will operate with limited menus. The Bold Line Bistro will not be operating on Opening Day.

To celebrate the start of the season, the **first 50 guests to ride Sonnet on Monday, December 29th** will receive a **free breakfast burrito** and a **voucher for a 2025/2026 season Mt. Ashland neck gaiter**. *Opening Day festivities are proudly sponsored by People's Bank.*



"We're opening several weeks later than planned," said **Andrew Gast, General Manager of Mt. Ashland.** "The snow we expected simply didn't arrive, but we're incredibly excited to open what we can this holiday week. Our crews have done an outstanding job in managing the snow, and we can't wait to expand terrain as winter delivers."

While the season's snowfall to date is approximately 70% below average, the Mt. Ashland team is working creatively and diligently to open terrain and get skiers and snowboarders back on the slopes as soon as possible.

As Mountain Operations ramp up, all Uphill Travel Access will be closed Saturday, December 27, and Sunday, December 28. Standard uphill travel regulations and hours will take effect beginning Monday, December 29, from 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., with all uphill travelers required to return to the parking lot by 8:30 a.m. Uphill access is limited to Mt. Ashland Uphill Access Pass holders, and passes must be displayed at all times. Passes may be purchased online and picked up from the Business Office on Saturday, December 26, and Sunday, December 27. Once the season is underway, passes must be picked up at the Ski Area during operating hours. Guests are strongly encouraged to check the Mountain Report for updates on uphill access and road conditions at www.mtashland.com/mountain-report.

*Sledding is never allowed in the Ski Area but sledders are encouraged to visit the sno-park near the Mt. Ashland campground.

To help prepare for Opening Day, Mt. Ashland's Business Office, located at 693 Washington Street, Suite A, Ashland, will be open Saturday, December 27, and Sunday, December 28, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Beginning Monday, December 29, all passes must be printed at the Ticket Desk in the Karen & Sid DeBoer Lodge.

Opening Day marks just the beginning of the season, with a full events calendar ahead. Festivities kick off December 31st with a New Year's Eve mid-day celebration in the Karen & Sid DeBoer Lodge. Guests can stay up to date on all events at www.mtashland.com/event-directory.

Despite the late start, Mt. Ashland is looking forward to another incredible season. As General Manager Andrew Gast famously says in his *Andrew in the Alpine* videos, "We'll see YOU on the mountain!"

Mt. Ashland Ski Area is owned and operated by the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Mt. Ashland Association under a special use permit from the U.S. Forest Service, with a mission to provide and promote healthy alpine recreation.

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Images available at: <https://www.mtashland.com/press-room/>