

MAKING LIFE MORE FUN

Internet Offers Potential Cures For The Winter Blahs

(NAPS)—When the weather outside is frightful, it can be especially delightful to make and confirm entertainment plans *before* venturing into the cold.

As a winter companion, the Internet can be just as useful as a snow shovel—and much more versatile. For example, local Web destinations offer a variety of information people need for where they live and the places they plan to visit. These include:

- **Digital City (www.digitalcity.com):** An online network that covers more than 600,000 entertainment events and venues. The service is a reliable resource for fun activities in more than 200 cities, with “Best Of” reviews and listings in more than 40 categories—restaurants, bars and clubs, hotels, shopping, bookstores, music stores and more. You can even have additional suggestions and reviews delivered to your e-mailbox each weekend through a customizable entertainment newsletter.

The site’s “Local Experts” network gives people the opportunity to voice their opinions and submit reviews of local restaurants and businesses. In addition, the “VIP Desk” concierge service offers live, real-time assistance for people looking for recommendations and help with daily tasks and entertainment choices, such as making dinner reservations.

- **MapQuest (www.mapquest.com):** A trusted travel companion from start to end of every journey. From the site you can download maps, up-to-the-minute traffic



Going online before going outdoors can help make winter outings more enjoyable.

alerts, door-to-door driving directions and a business locator that finds places of interest along the way and around town—including rest stops, restaurants, ATMs and more.

- **AOL Moviefone (www.moviefone.com):** Going to the movies can be a great escape from winter weather, and this informative site makes it easy to find out what’s playing and where. Moviegoers can sort through the dozens of new releases, find showtimes and buy tickets in advance. In addition, there’s detailed information on why movies have been given their ratings, reviews from critics and other moviegoers, movie trailers, movie news, chat rooms, contests and more.

With these helpful online services, planning an entire evening out on the town has never been easier. In fact, the Internet may be just the tool you need to fully take advantage of your winter wonderland.