

ICE ACTIVITY SAFETY TIPS

Embrace Winter & Know How to be Safe On and Around Ice

With so many months of below freezing temperatures Canadians everywhere embrace cold weather activities, many which are on or around ice. To stay safe:

- ***Ice needs to be measured in several locations, while wearing a lifejacket in case it breaks***
- ***Know how to identify thin ice and be familiar with its hazards; many factors affect ice thickness and strength***
- ***Stay off ice over moving water - currents can change ice thickness quickly!***

Keep reading to learn more about how to keep you and your family safe around ice!

Know how to identify thin ice and its hazards - check out our Thin Ice fact sheet!

Fast Facts

- Consumption of alcohol or drugs continues to be a factor in snowmobiling related drownings - stay safe, sled sober!
- Over half of snowmobile related drownings happen after dark
- Wearing a snowmobile flotation suite or a lifejacket over winter clothing significantly increases your chances of surviving a fall through ice and keeps you warm



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Water Smart Facts

Keeping Everyone Safe

To keep you and your group safe around ice:

- Only skate on ponds and lakes maintained by well informed personnel who test ice thickness regularly
- Always supervise children playing on or near ice; have them wear a lifejacket in case the ice breaks
- Don't travel on ice at night, ice conditions change daily and hazards or warning signs are difficult to see at night
- Leash dogs around ice; a person who goes in to try and save a dog from a fall through the ice is more likely to drown than the dog
- Don't go onto ice alone! Always bring a buddy and have an emergency plan that you know and are prepared to use
- If you drive on ice, know how to escape your vehicle if it breaks through the ice

