

# Safe Ice Advisory

With the winter season upon us, residents of all ages look for outdoor areas for ice skating. With any outdoor skating area the ice should be tested before venturing on it. There are specific ways to test ice safety which Do Not include throwing debris such as rocks, sticks, etc. on the ice making it hazardous for everyone. Rather, test the ice by the edge of a skating area by carefully stepping out 6" to 8", proceeding carefully to about 2' out from the edge only if the ice appears to be safe under your weight. Chip the ice with a tool or stick until you can ascertain a rough idea as to the thickness of the ice. You should always have another person with you when doing this. Many outdoor skating areas do not have the same thickness of universally over the area. Always be on guard for soft spots or thin ice which manifest from underground springs, drain pipes, etc.

## General Safe Ice Standards

Ice Safe For:	0-30 Degrees	30-40 Degrees	40-50 Degrees
Single Skaters:	1-3/4 Inches	2-3/4 Inches	6 Inches
Couples:	2-3/4 Inches	3-3/4 Inches	8 Inches
Crowds:	3-3/4 Inches	4-3/4 Inches	12 Inches

Stay Off Of Salt Water Ice Completely!

These figures are for clear, fresh water ice only; for snow ice, add 2 inches; for water logged ice, add 3 inches; if skates cut in - go home! Salt water in mild climates is always treacherous - keep away from it. Also thickness in 40-50 degree column are safe depths for short periods of time only.