



News Release



7:05 A.M. January 5, 2012

Due to the warmer than usual temperatures Fire Services for the County of Newell are recommending a high level of caution when you are on Ice Covered bodies of water.

Already this year some Alberta Lakes have experience people falling through the Ice.

The ice may be thick but the quality of ice may be very weak. Air temperature fluctuations can cause thermal expansion or contraction, which creates wet or dry cracks. Avoid cracks that meet at a 90° angle. Any water on the surface of ice is a danger sign. Snow (White) Ice is ice that appears opaque or milky and is considered weak ice. Canded Ice is a milky, whitish gray ice that indicates deteriorated ice. It is also considered weak ice.

If You Fall Through Ice (Self Rescue Tips)

- ✓ Yell to get attention of others.
- ✓ Reach and grab onto the ice.
- ✓ Kick hard, and push your stomach onto the ice.
- ✓ Roll like a log once on the ice.
- ✓ Do not get up and walk to the shore, keep rolling, spread you weight.
- ✓ Hang onto the ice, and keep yelling if you can't get out yourself.

IF Someone Else Falls Through Ice

- ✓ Stay on the shore: don't attempt a rescue; you could end up needing rescue yourself.
- ✓ Call 9-1-1 and ask for the Fire Department. Remember to give clear directions to where you are and who, what and how many have gone through the ice.
- ✓ Yell out the above Self Rescue Tips to the person(s).
- ✓ Watch and talk to the person, reassure them that help is on the way.
- ✓ Wait for help. Do not go onto the ice.
- ✓ When the Fire Department arrives, tell them what you saw.

For further information please contact:
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