

IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED?



This information is brought to you by **Emergency Preparedness and Planning** of the **Community Protection Unit**. We value the safety of our children, our families and our community.

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, CONTACT
THE KAHNAWAKE PEACEKEEPERS AT
(450) 632-6505



MAKE IT A PRIORITY IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD
BEE SURE YOUR FAMILY IS PREPARED

For more information on how you can protect yourself in case of an emergency, call the Community Protection Unit at:

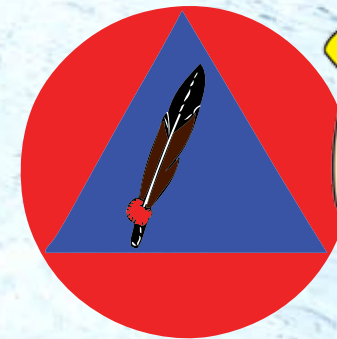
(450) 632-0635

or visit us online

www.kahnawake.com/beprepared

THE DANGERS OF ICE

**BEE
PREPARED**



BROUGHT TO YOU BY
**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
&
PLANNING**

COMMUNITY **PROTECTION UNIT**

THE

DANGERS

OF ICE



BE PREPARED...

My family prepared for the winter... did yours?

ICE WATER DANGERS

Winter is always an exciting time of year for the outdoors type. Many enjoy venturing out for ice fishing, skating or snowmobiling and these activities usually take place on ice. What most people fail to recognize are the inherent dangers associated with ice. In Canada alone, there are more than 200 deaths per year as a result of ice water accidents. Most are due directly to a failure to recognize the hazards or dangers of being on the ice. Becoming a statistic can be avoided by paying attention to the risks involved.

ENSURING YOUR SAFETY

The Emergency Preparedness and Planning of the Community Protection Unit has compiled this resource to help prepare families to recognize the dangers of ice. These tips will provide families with the necessary information that will help prevent or reduce the risk of an emergency situation.

Remember, when ice is involved you are without question at risk. There is no such thing as 100% safe ice and it is important to understand this danger each and every time you step onto it.

TIPS

- Have ice picks with you in case you break through the ice
- Never venture onto ice alone. Walk apart from each other to reduce the weight in one spot
- Gauging the strength of ice is very difficult. If you do not know if it is safe, do not put yourself at risk.
- Never walk or drive on cloudy ice.
- Only walk on clear, thick ice
- Spring ice is NEVER safe
- The thickness of ice is never consistent. It will be flat on top, but not on the bottom
- Snow on ice acts as an insulator - it makes ice warmer and weaker. Avoid ice that is covered with snow
- Extreme cold snaps will weaken the ice
- Ice formed over moving water (rivers & streams) is more dangerous than ice formed over standing water (lakes & ponds)
- Avoid ice around rocky areas. Rocks absorb the heat from the sun and melt the ice faster than the air. Keep clear from these areas



WHAT IF YOU FALL THROUGH?

- Try not to panic. It will be freezing cold, and if you panic you will go into shock
- Turn toward the direction before you fell in to pull yourself out. It's the safest place
- Place your arms on the surface of the ice and work your way up by kicking your feet (use ice picks if you have them)
- Once you are on the ice, roll away from the breakage. Do not try to stand up

ICE THICKNESS

- Less than 2 inches **STAY OFF!**
- 4" and thicker - probably safe for walking and ice fishing on foot
- 5" and thicker - probably safe for ATV or snowmobiling
- 8-12" and thicker - probably safe for small cars or light pickups
- 12-15" and thicker - probably safe for medium trucks

