



February 2024

Ice Safety

Nearly all snowmobile drownings occur late in the day or at night. 57% of the deaths occurred from January to March, when people might expect the ice to be the strongest.



The colour of ice may be an indication of its strength.

- ✓ Clear blue ice is strongest
- ✓ White opaque or snow ice is half as strong as blue ice
- ✓ Grey ice is unsafe (the greyness indicates the presence of water)

Many factors affect ice thickness including:

- ✓ type of water
- ✓ location
- ✓ time of year
- ✓ water depth
- ✓ currents, tides and other moving water
- ✓ chemicals including salt
- ✓ fluctuation in water levels
- ✓ logs, rocks and docks absorbing heat from the sun
- ✓ shock waves from vehicles traveling on the ice.



Take extra precautions when enjoying winter outdoor activities.