



# ICE SAFETY

With the arrival of colder temperatures, we remind everyone to ensure that ice is safe and thick enough before walking or driving on it. Ice thickness depends on the particular waterbody and the local conditions. It does not freeze at a uniform thickness, and ice strength can vary considerably from one area to another. Be aware that any activity on ice has risks

## ICE THICKNESS GUIDELINES

Always check the ice thickness before you travel on it.

As a guideline, you need:

- at least 10 cm (four inches) of ice to walk on,
- 20 cm (eight inches) to drive a snowmobile or ATV on,
- 30 cm (12 inches) to drive a car or light truck on
- more than 30 cm (12 inches) to support a heavy truck.

Guidelines are provided to help individuals decide whether to venture onto the ice. Thickness is one consideration when evaluating ice safety, as clear and hard ice is the only ice recommended for travel.

Also, avoid ice that:

- looks slushy;
- has thawed, then frozen again;
- is near moving water;
- is layered, caused by sudden temperature changes, or
- has structures on it, such as pressure ridges.

