

Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness

(Rough Guidelines for New Clear Ice Only)

2" or less
**STAY
OFF!!**



4 Inches
Ice Fishing



5 Inches
Snowmobile
or ATV



8-12 Inches
Car or
Small Pickup



12-15 Inches
Medium Truck



Department of Natural Resources



- ❄ Many ice drownings involve children. When your child is near the ice, you should be near your child.
- ❄ Avoid alcoholic beverages when you're on the ice. They can make you feel colder and slow down your reaction time in case of an ice emergency.
- ❄ Carry two large nails to use as ice picks to pull yourself out if you fall through thin ice.
- ❄ Never drive on the ice at night.
- ❄ Avoid pressure ridges, and areas with current if you do choose to drive on the ice.
- ❄ Drive with your windows down and doors partially open to avoid becoming trapped if your car breaks through.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Boat & Water Safety Section
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4046
(651) 259-5400 or call MN toll free 1-888-MINNDNR
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf
(651) 296-5484 or MN toll free 1-800-657-3929
www.mndnr.gov/safety/ice

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