

Staying off thin ice

Show caution, consideration when ice fishing

Ice fishing on Winchell Lake Municipal Reserve is a popular winter time activity. Year after year, several people come to the area to ice fish and bring wooden pallets or plastic pails to sit on, mark their favorite spot or lay their fish on. However, these items are often left behind at the end of the season, and either sink into the lake, or float ashore, causing garbage to accumulate on the shore lines. Please be considerate of this area. When ice fishing, please remove all items from the ice in case you don't get a chance to claim your items before the spring thaw. The environment, wildlife and people who enjoy the Municipal Reserve will thank you.

Let's all do our part to keep Municipal Reserves a place for all to enjoy. If the rules are not obeyed, they will be destroyed and will slowly disappear. Let's ensure generations from now have areas such as Winchell Lake in which to enjoy our beautiful County. If you don't obey the rules, who will?

If you have any further questions regarding Municipal Reserves or any other County Patrol related topic, please contact Mountain View County Patrol at 403-335-3311 or 1-877-264-9754.

Ice fishing tips:

- Never go alone
- Wear layered clothing- hands and feet should be kept warm and dry
- Never fish in an area where the ice is less than 4 inches thick.
- Avoid areas where there are feeder streams and springs.
- Stay away from areas that are dark, honeycombed or porous ice.
- Know when enough is enough- If you become wet, cold or tired- head for home.

