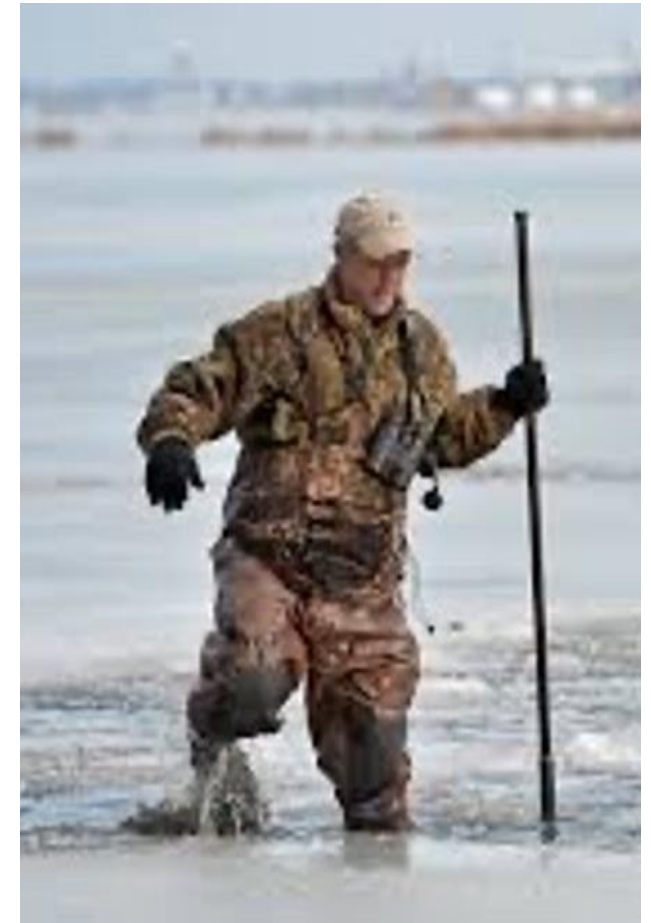


Ice Awareness

For First Responding Apparatus



Ice Thickness

Ice is never 100% safe!

Minimum ice thickness guidelines for new, clear ice only

**STAY
OFF!**



3" OR LESS

4"
Ice fishing and
skating



5-6"
Snowmobiles
and ATVs



8-12"
Cars and small
trucks



12-15"
Medium trucks

Rarely achieved in DC area

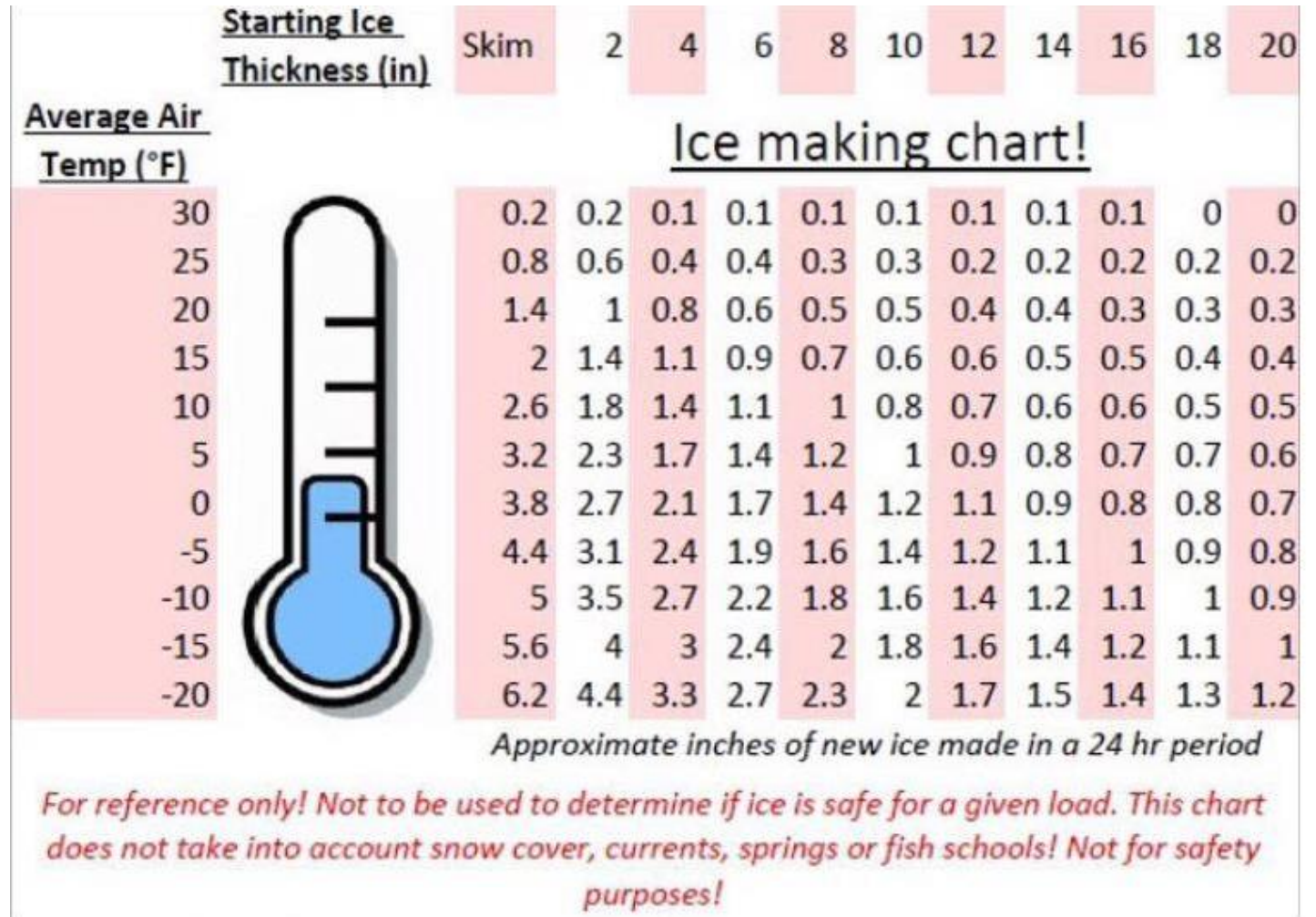
ICE SAFETY TIPS:

- Double the thickness guidelines for white or snow-covered ice.
- Carry two large nails to use as ice picks if you fall through.
- Avoid pressure ridges and areas with current.
- Warn children about the dangers of thin ice.
- Do not drive on ice at night.
- Avoid alcoholic beverages when on and near ice.



As thickness increases, rate of growth decreases

- Water is resistant to temperature change
- Snow acts as insulator- imagine putting a top on your yeti cup
- If it snows and then gets cold, ice may not be as thick as this chart estimates



If you CAN'T see the victim

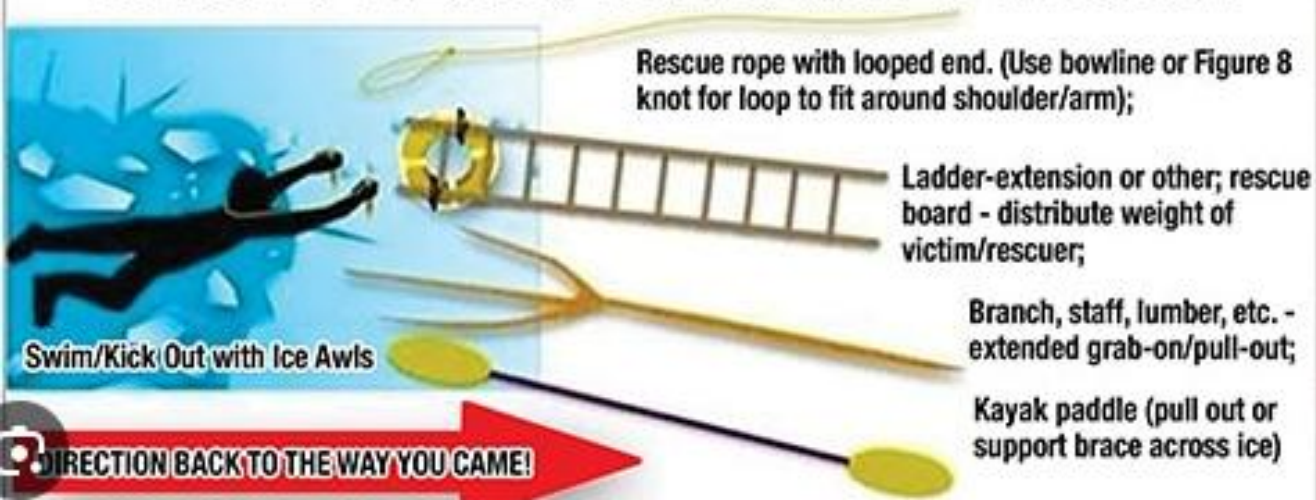
- Deny Entry
- Talk to bystander /witness
- Mark last known location. Triangulate.
Use object in background
- Obtain clues (Footprints, Bookbag on ice)
- Don't disturb shoreline. Don't break the ice
- Have police check home address



If you CAN see the victim

- Deny entry
- Establish contact with victim (Yell, Reach, Throw)
- **Yell** (reassure, determine fatigue, establish timeline)
- **Reach**(Inflated hose, ladder, pike pole)
- **Throw** (water rescue throwbag)
- Maintain contact with victim

ICE SELF RESCUE & ASSISTED RESCUE



- Position to leave access for technician level units

DO NOT enter ice without proper PPE

DO NOT enter ice if above your level of training

Tech Level Capabilities

- Tech level personnel are trained and prepared to make entry to the hot zone and perform rescue



- If the victim has submerged, we have the tools to visualize them under the surface and minimize risk



While awaiting extrication

- Warm patient compartment of ambulance (highest thermostat setting)
- Call for additional transport as rehab
- Prepare to assess severity of hypothermia
- Stage EMS equipment depending on patient condition
- Have blankets/towels/mylar blanket/heat packs ready
- Blizzard blanket available on Swift Water Units
- If possible, gather patient information from bystanders to prevent delay of transport

