



A Friendly Reminder From The Colchester Fire and Emergency Medical Services



Clear A Path

Residents are reminded that this is the season that causes a lot of problems for the fire and EMS service in their attempt to provide you emergency services quickly. Snow and ice covered driveways and sidewalks create difficulty for emergency responders to access your home. Moving a stretcher through ice and snow is extremely difficult. *Driveways and walkways should be cleared as soon as possible after snow falls.*

Fire Hydrants

Residents fortunate to have a fire hydrant on their property are asked to, if possible remove the snow from around the hydrant and not allow snowplows to bury them.



Ice Dangers on Waterways

Ice is not uniformly thick from one location to the other and underlying conditions such as springs, current and rock formations below the surface can affect the formation of ice. It could be 6 inches thick in one spot and 1 inch a few feet away. Such inconsistencies contribute to a false sense of security as children or adults venture further from shore. Each year unsuspecting children die in ice related incidents.

Remember- "The only absolute in ice safety is stay off!"

If ice-skating is your thing, check with your local municipality for safe ice skating locations.

Ice Fishermen; call the State of Connecticut DEP for information.



REMINDER: If a pet or animal falls through thin ice, do **NOT** venture out onto the ice. When the ice could not hold the animal- it won't hold you. Dial 9-1-1. We have the equipment and training to remedy the situation.

Alternative Heating Sources

Please be sure that you are informed on how to **safely** use propane, kerosene, wood and or pellet heating devices. If you are removing ashes from a wood stove, please use extreme caution with hot embers, keeping them away from anything that could ignite. These ashes should not be put in any container that will melt or catch on fire such as plastic.

Is Your Number Posted?

Your address number that is- we cannot find you quickly in an emergency if your street number is not clearly visible. Two sided reflective green or blue number signs are available at fire headquarters for twelve dollars or you may purchase reflective numbers at your local hardware store and make your own. Please help us locate your home quickly during an emergency!

