

**LEICESTERSHIRE**

**FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE**

**WINTER SAFETY  
ADVICE**

Icy and Frozen Conditions

## ICY AND FROZEN CONDITIONS

The focus for this advice is to highlight the dangers presented by water courses and other open water areas, e.g. ponds, lakes, etc..., in particular when they have frozen over.

Parents should warn their children of the dangers of frozen water, and discourage them from playing on or near open water areas during freezing and icy conditions.

It is understandable that areas of water are a natural recreational attraction to the public but the following simple guidance should help to keep you safe when using them:

- Supervise younger children at all times, and discourage older children from playing near frozen water.
- If possible find other areas to walk your animals. Public access to rivers, lakes, canals, etc..., are a great draw in wintery conditions but they can also be dangerous so if possible walk your animals elsewhere and eliminate any risk to them and yourself.
- Keep animals on leads at all times when you are near to the water. Your dog may normally be very well trained and well behaved but you never know what may distract them and make them run on to the ice, to them it's just another piece of land, especially if there are ducks to chase!
- Do not enter the water if your dog does. In general, when a dog enters the water it will find its own way out; resist the temptation to jump in yourself.

If your dog does enter the water and it appears that they can't get out on their own, call 999 straight away and ask for assistance. The Fire and Rescue Service are specially trained and equipped to deal with these incidents safely.