

Outdoor Ice Skating at the Auburndale Cove

- Skating Hours: Dawn to Dusk
- The building will not be accessible due to Covid-19 regulations
- Call the Skating Hotline for daily updates: 617-796-1536
- As this is a natural sheet of ice on a river, conditions will vary and can include bumpy patches, cracks, etc.
- Please, no machinery or vehicles on the ice

Ice Thickness Standards

The following standards are used in determining sufficient ice thickness for skating:

9" Black Ice - Black Ice is formed by the freezing of water without a snowcap on it; thus creating a non-porous ice that is strong in consistency.

12" Snow Ice - Snow Ice is formed when a snow covers, over a thin layer of black ice melts and re-freezes to form a white porous ice.

When is ice safe?

There really is no sure answer. You can't judge the strength of ice just by its appearance, age, thickness, temperature, or whether or not the ice is covered with snow. Strength is based on all these factors -- plus the depth of water under the ice, size of the water body, water chemistry and currents, the distribution of the load on the ice, and local climatic conditions.

There is no such thing as 100 percent safe ice.