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City warns residents of melting ice on stormwater lakes and ponds

April 4, 2017

As temperatures rise and ice melts, the City of Edmonton, along with Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, are reminding residents to stay clear of stormwater lakes and ponds as well as the river.

Stormwater lakes and ponds play an important role in Edmonton's stormwater system. They protect our communities from flooding and they clean stormwater, which is water from rainfall or melted snow that becomes surface runoff. They can be warmer, more turbulent and melt ice faster than natural bodies of water. While it may appear to be safe on the surface, stormwater ice is unpredictable and dangerous.

Edmonton Fire Rescue Services reminds citizens that fluctuating water levels cause the ice thickness to vary across the length and breadth of the North Saskatchewan River, posing a significant risk to the public. The North Saskatchewan River is a powerful, deceptive, fast-moving river; snow and ice on the river is never safe to walk on.

We ask that residents practice [ice safety](#) by thinking twice before stepping on thin ice.

For more information:

edmonton.ca/icesafety/

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