



**COLBY COLLEGE
JOHNSON POND
WINTER USE POLICY**

CEHS-PL-S01

This written program will be reviewed by the EHS Director when failures or discrepancies indicate that the policy is not adequate.

REVISION	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE	REVISION EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION COMPLETED BY: NAME / COMPANY	MANAGER APPROVAL / DATE
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial program 	12/2011	Bruce McDougal	
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Format revised to meet EHS documents 	8/2018	Wade Behnke	Mark Crosby

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1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The Johnson Pond Policy is written to ensure the safe use of Johnson Pond during the winter season by members of Colby College community and the residents of Waterville and the surrounding area.

2.0 SCOPE

- 2.1 The Johnson Pond policy covers the recreational use of Johnson Pond after ice has formed on the pond.

3.0 PROCEDURE

- 3.1 Accessing the thickness of the ice.
- 3.1.1 Before the ice depth can be tested there must be a significant period of subzero temperatures and the pond must be completely iced over.
 - 3.1.2 In conjunction with the ice appearance, the Maine Warden Service local ice conditions must be reviewed to ensure that the ice can be safely walked on to conduct the sampling.
 - 3.1.3 Once the ice conditions indicate that the ice is safe for one person to walk on it (1¾ inches), Grounds staff will take four core samples to determine the average depth of the ice.
 - 3.1.4 If at any time samples indicate that the ice is less than 1¾ inches, sampling will stop and the pond will remain closed
 - 3.1.5 In order to open the pond for recreational use, all samples must be greater than 3 inches with a minimum average of 5 inches.
- 3.2 Snow Removal
- 3.2.1 Facilities staff will clear the ice rink once average ice depth is 5 inches and the pond has been opened for use by the Director of Outdoor Education.
 - 3.2.2 Use of mechanical equipment to clear the pond is limited to personal walk behind snow blowers. The work will be scheduled as time and weather permits.
 - 3.2.3 The pond will not be cleared during periods of extremely cold weather.
- 3.3 Communication
- 3.3.1 While the pond is closed the following signs will be placed on four sides of the pond:

“Danger -- Thin Ice”
 - 3.3.2 Once the ice depth reaches 5 inches or greater, signage listed in Appendix A, with general guidelines and cautions for usage will be posted on four sides of the pond.

3.4 Pond Closure

- 3.4.1 The pond will be closed for usage when the average ice thickness is less than 5 inches or it begins to recede from the shoreline.
- 3.4.2 The Grounds Supervisor will direct assessment of the ice depth when conditions warm.

4.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Responsibilities for oversight and implementation of the Johnson Pond policy are assigned below.

4.2 Director of Outdoor Education

- 4.2.1 Takes the lead on opening the pond and reviews ice thickness reports and approves student/public access to the pond.
- 4.2.2 Monitors weather conditions and closes the pond when ice conditions deteriorate.

4.3 Grounds Supervisor

- 4.3.1 Oversees the ice thickness assessments and communicates the results to the Director of Outdoor Education and the EHS Director.
- 4.3.2 Ensures that the "Danger -- Thin Ice" signs are posted when the pond is closed but iced over.
- 4.3.3 Ensures that the signs with the guidelines for use are posted when the pond is open.
- 4.3.4 Oversees snow removal on the pond in compliance with this policy.

4.4 Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) Director

- 4.4.1 Act as a backup to the Director of Outdoor Education and monitors the ice conditions and ensures that the pond is operated in accordance to this policy.

Appendix A: Johnson Pond Open, Guidelines for Use Signage

Welcome to Johnson Pond

- Use of Johnson pond is for skating and other winter activities at your own risk.
- Foot traffic and pedestrian activities only.
- Vehicles and other recreational equipment are NOT permitted.
- Fires are not permitted.
- Ice conditions can change rapidly and are affected by many factors including snow cover, temperature, sunlight, springs, drainages and usage. Please carefully observe area before any usage and always use caution.
- Please treat area with respect.
- Please ensure you clean up and properly dispose of pet waste.
- A CARRY IN--CARRY PUT policy is in effect for trash.

Thank you for your cooperation

For Emergencies

Contact Campus Security at 859-5911

Or Call 911