

Farm Safety Facts

Drowning & Dugouts



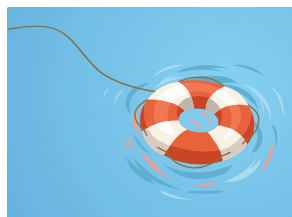
Farm Drowning Facts



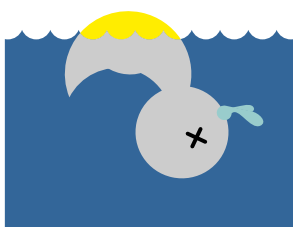
Drowning is **3 times** more likely to occur in rural areas



2006 – 2015 there were **10 child drowning fatalities** in Canada



Drowning fatalities accounted for **12%** of all child farm fatalities



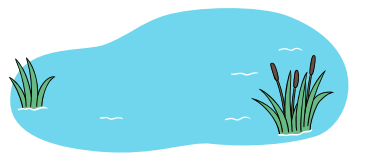
50% of all drowning fatalities occurred in a dugout



Children between the **ages of 1 – 10 years old** are at the greatest risk

Stay Safe Around Dugouts

Identify hazards including dugouts, irrigation ponds, manure lagoons, wells, and water troughs



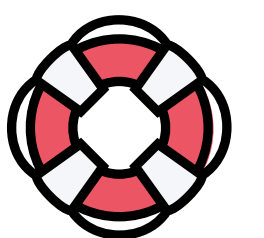
Prepare a safety kit with rope, buoyant object, and life jacket in a weather proof container close and store close water hazards such as tied to a fence post



Post signs such as Danger, No Trespassing or No Play Area



Drowning can happen even in small bodies of water such as ditches or water troughs



Drowning is often...

- **Quick** : only takes seconds for a child to drown
- **Quiet** : often children are unable to cry to for help when drowning

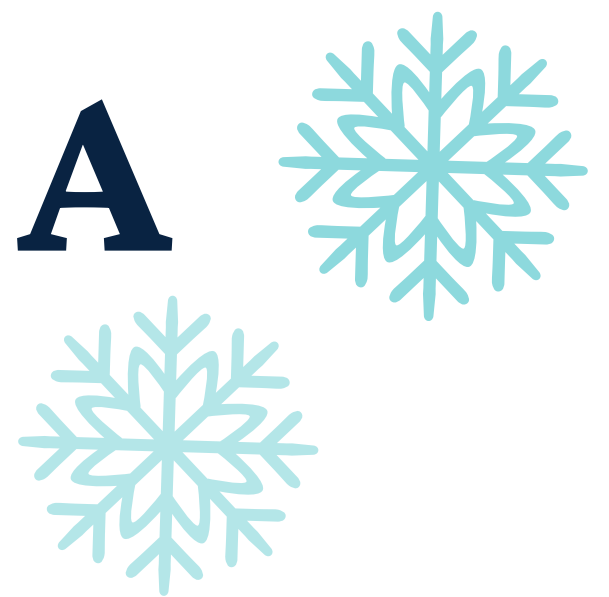


Most drowning fatalities on the farm are not from swimming



Talk to children about why it is important not to play around dugouts, lagoons, and water tanks including recognizing the hazards and what can happen if children get too close to open water.

Dugouts Are Not Just A Summer Hazard



Check the ice, before you go on it!

Thin ice in the winter poses a **hazard** make sure to check the thickness of ice **before** venturing out onto a frozen body of water.



If you break through the ice...

- **DO NOT PANIC!** Calm yourself and your breathing.
- Turn **toward direction** you came from and place your hands and arms on the unbroken surface.
- **Kick your feet and push yourself** forward on top of the unbroken ice on your stomach like a seal.
- Once you are lying on the ice, **do not stand up**. Roll away from the break until you are on solid ice.

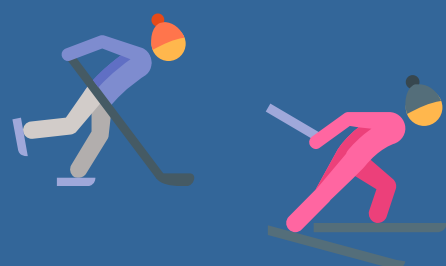


Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness

7 cm (3") or less
STAY OFF!



10 cm (4")
Ice fishing, walking, cross-country skiing, hockey



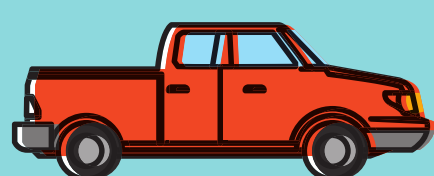
12 cm (5")
Snomobile
ATV



20 - 30 cm (8 - 12")
Car or small pick-up truck



20 - 30 cm (8 - 12")
Medium pick-up truck

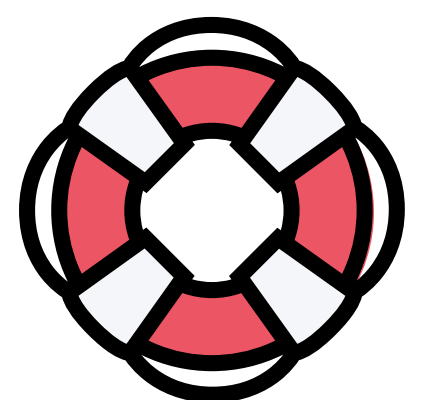
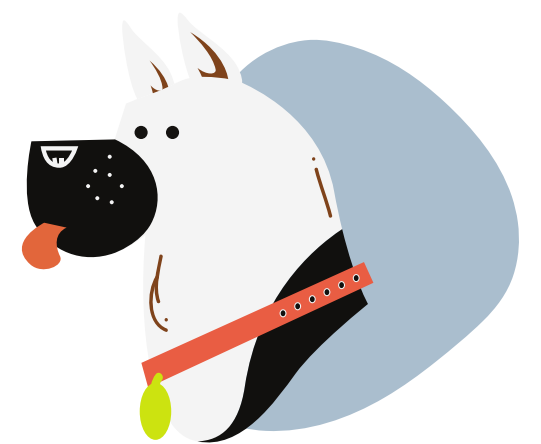


50+ cm (20"+)
Large pick-up truck
or small tractor



Venturing out onto the ice to save others including pets puts you at risk

- **Stop** and proceed with caution before heading onto the ice to rescue someone or a pet
- **Call for help**
- Keep an **buoy** or **empty plastic jug** such as an old windshield washer fluid jug tied to a rope near the dugout and other bodies of water to be used in rescues



Remember, no ice is safe ice!