

Board of County Commissioners

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Carroll County Government

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Warns “Stay off the Ice”

Westminster, MD, Friday, January 5, 2018 – Carroll County Department of Recreation and Parks and the Department of Public Safety jointly issued strong warnings today regarding the dangers of venturing onto icy surfaces or ice skating on county-owned properties. The recent cold weather has caused ponds and other bodies of water to begin to freeze and ice over throughout Carroll County.

The Westminster Community Pond is the only location where skating is allowed, and only after it is professionally assessed for safety. **The Westminster Community Pond is currently off limits due to unsafe conditions.** Carroll County Bureau of Facilities will post a “No Skating” sign and monitor the thickness of the ice. The sign will be updated when conditions are safe for skating.

Ice skating is prohibited at all other Carroll County parks and facilities.

Here are a few ice safety tips to stay safe:

- Never go on frozen waters (unless clearly marked otherwise with official signs).
- Parents and caregivers should make sure children are never unattended near ice.
- If you hear cracking, lie down immediately to try to distribute your weight.
- If you witness someone on the ice, notify authorities immediately.
- If you witness someone falling through ice, never attempt to make a rescue by yourself. Call 911 and notify the proper authorities. Be sure to give the exact location and an account of the incident.
- If skating is allowed, never skate alone.

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CARROLL COUNTY

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.