

# Ice Fishing Checklist

By Nicole Nichols-West

## ☐ Clothing

- ☐ Layer your clothing, wear a T-shirt, turtleneck or long underwear shirt, a sweater, and then a coat.
- ☐ Eliminate the space that cold air can get through.
- ☐ With three to four layers of clothing you can add or subtract layers and be comfortable.
- ☐ Have an extra set of dry clothes.
- ☐ Have hats and gloves.
- ☐ Wear warm socks and insulated boots (waterproof).

## ☐ Equipment

- ☐ Get a first aid kit.
- ☐ Bring high energy snacks.
- ☐ Have a thermos of hot liquids.
- ☐ Have a five-gallon bucket to carry gear.
- ☐ Use a sled to transport gear.
- ☐ Use an ice auger to drill a hole in the ice.
- ☐ Use an ice skimmer (strainer-type instrument) to clear the hole of ice chips.
- ☐ Have ice fishing poles.
- ☐ Get a small dime-sized bobber or a spring-tipped fishing rod.
- ☐ Bring a piece of carpeting or cardboard to stand on.
- ☐ Use small hooks with a bead to attract attention to the bait.
- ☐ Get an insulated minnow bucket to keep bait from freezing.
- ☐ Use a minnow dipper to keep hands from getting wet and freezing.

## ☐ Miscellaneous

- ☐ A camping lantern or powerful, reliable flashlight.
- ☐ A needle-nose pliers and a knife for removing hooks and cutting line.
- ☐ A tape measure or length limit ruler is needed to measure fish which have length limits.