

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.