



**CONTACT:** Karen Livingstone  
Communications  
732-842-4000, ext. 4256  
[klivings@monmouthcountyparks.com](mailto:klivings@monmouthcountyparks.com)

or

Patti Conroy  
Visitor Services  
732-842-4000, ext. 4247  
[pconroy@monmouthcountyparks.com](mailto:pconroy@monmouthcountyparks.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, January 24, 2022

**MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM WANTS RESIDENTS TO STAY SAFE**



*Monmouth County Park System Rangers undergo ice rescue training at Holmdel Park.*

LINCROFT – Although the weather has been cold, Monmouth County Park System Rangers are cautioning residents that area bays, ponds and reservoirs are not safe for skating or other winter activities. In most cases, ice must be 4 – 5” thick to safely support people. Rangers are trained to test the viability of ice and have observed that currently, ice is simply not thick enough to safely allow access. Testing ice requires systematic daily sampling from multiple locations before the waterbody opens for winter activities.

The appearance of ice can be deceiving, especially to children who may be tempted to venture out onto a frozen waterbody. Even if ice can support the weight of a child at the water's edge, there are often thin spots from moving water or other conditions that will not support their weight. County Park Superintendent Tom Fobes reminds parents to have a discussion with their children about ice safety. "We love to see kids outside, staying active during winter months," Fobes said. "But they should only go out on the ice in an area that is posted as safe and is monitored daily by someone with proper training."

County Park Rangers are monitoring conditions daily and will announce on the Park System's [Winter Activities](#) webpage when conditions are favorable for ice skating and ice fishing.

To learn more about the Monmouth County Park System, please visit [www.MonmouthCountyParks.com](http://www.MonmouthCountyParks.com) or call 732-842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the Park System TTY/TDD number is 711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks, and Recreation agency.

#



*PICTURED – Monmouth County Park System Rangers check ice thickness at Holmdel Park.*