



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2005 Wisconsin Act 395
[2005 Assembly Bill 923]

Warning Methods for Ice Holes

Current law generally requires a person who creates an ice hole in a lake by aeration of water to maintain a barricade or marking around the hole subject to specific statutory requirements. Persons following statutory requirements for barricades are also generally not liable for damage suffered by persons who enter the barricade or marked area.

2005 Wisconsin Act 395 alters the general warning methods provided under current law for ice holes created by aeration of water to allow greater flexibility in barrier height, length, materials, and barrier removal. The Act establishes alternative warning methods for lake protection and rehabilitation districts or nonprofit corporations who create ice holes by aeration as approved by the Department of Natural Resources for the purposes of water quality. The alternative methods required such persons to post highly visible warning notices at each shoreline area through which the public has access and to provide written notice to owners of riparian property on the affected lake. The Act also provides general liability protection for organizations and individuals who follow the required notice provisions.

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DWS:jal

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.