



## Sustainable Development

Parks and Protected Spaces Branch

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# NOTICE

## **RE: Use of Equipment to Create Thin Ice or Open Water Conditions Surrounding Public Reserve Developments**

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This is to provide notice that the Parks and Protected Spaces Branch of Manitoba Sustainable Development, has recently reviewed the use of winter dock bubblers, de-icers and submersible water pumps installed by owners and occupiers of vacation home lots within Provincial Parks.

It has come to the Departments attention that dock bubblers and/or submersible pumps are currently being installed by various lot holders at the edge of their docks and boathouse structures, that are used as a preventative measure to mitigate against ice damage to public reserve development. However, this practice of installing pumps results in areas of open water and unsafe ice conditions that pose a risk to neighboring cottagers and ice users alike.

The Department has reviewed this matter and would like to inform contractors, owners and occupiers of vacation home lots that due to the high risk to public safety and liability concerns associated with this activity, the independent use of any equipment installed within the water to create thin ice or open water conditions is strictly prohibited within Provincial Parks. In the event that such work is brought to the Departments attention, action will be taken to immediately cease use and removal of these systems.

Thank you. Should you have any questions or concerns with this Notice, you may contact your local district office or myself directly at 204-945-4406.

Sincerely,

Kathy Blanchard  
Manager of Cottaging and  
Commercial Development

c. Rob Nedotiafko, Director of Parks