



Palatine Fire Department

Incident Press Release

For Immediate Release

December 28, 2009

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Dog rescued from icy water

On Monday, December 28, 2009 at 11:26 a.m. the Palatine Fire Department responded to a report of a dog that had fallen into the icy water at Reimer Reservoir at Palatine and Quentin Rds in Palatine, Ill.. The first units arrived on the scene in less than 6 minutes and found the dog, a golden retriever, swimming in an unfrozen section of the reservoir approximately 100 feet from the shore. The dog was unable to climb onto the ice on its own. A firefighter donned an immersion suit, a suit designed to provide flotation and hypothermia protection, and ventured out onto the ice to retrieve the dog. As he reached the dog the ice edge collapsed, dropping the firefighter into the water. The firefighter then lifted the dog onto the ice. The dog ran to its owner who was standing on the shore. Other members of the fire crew pulled the firefighter from the water using the connected harness and rope. The dog was rescued in under 10 minutes, taken to a waiting ambulance to be dried off and warmed. The dog was unharmed.

A total of 8 firefighters and 2 police officers assisted in the rescue. The dog's owner stated that the dog ran onto the ice and headed for the open water in the center of the reservoir. When he saw his dog fall into the water, he knew that the ice would be unsafe and he immediately called for assistance from the fire department.

The Palatine Fire Department reminds citizens of the dangers of venturing onto icy ponds. Even ice that appears solid can be undermined by current or have unsafe areas due to changing water levels. If you see someone fall through the ice, immediately call for help. If you have any questions, please call the Palatine Fire Department Public Education Division at (847) 202-6302.

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