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**HOW TO  
TAKE YOUR  
ICE OUT**

**3 WAYS TO RUIN  
YOUR RINK**

# RINK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES ICE RINK ASSOCIATION

**MAGAZINE**



# MAYSA MAGIC

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# Time for Ice Out!

Removing your ice can be daunting, but simplified with a few easy steps

TO MANY RINK MANAGERS, the end of the season can be the happiest time of the year. Just one more project separates a rink operator from his or her best night's sleep since start-up: ice removal.

It can be a daunting task and there's a lot that goes into it. But with a few easy tips and some simple steps you can help ensure an efficient and safe ice removal process—and celebrate another successful year.

## PREPPING FOR "ICE-OUT"

The week leading up to your ice removal, be sure to have your resurfacer drivers

make heavier cuts to slowly bring down your sheet's thickness. Be careful not to get to an unsafe thickness for your last few events, so know who will be using your ice.

For a concrete slab, you can minimize wear and tear on your resurfacer by bringing in skid loaders or utility vehicles with plow attachments. The goal is to break the bond with the slab while minimizing the water on the surface. This can take 12 to 24 hours after shutdown, depending on temperatures in your building. If you can time it right, the skid loaders can remove large chunks of ice in

a fairly quick amount of time. Do not just open the doors and walk away!

1. Remove any reusable in-ice logos before the skid loaders come out.
2. Warn your equipment operators that wet concrete is almost as slippery as ice.
3. Monitor your air quality during this entire process.
4. Consider removing a section of boards to help make the ice removal process easier.
5. If you are plowing the ice out of your resurfacer gate, remove the gate threshold.



→ Prepare for ice-out with heavy cuts to bring down the sheet's thickness.

6. Have the MSDS sheets for your ice paint easily accessible
7. If dumping outside, be aware of your neighbors and where your water will drain to
8. Some facilities may require dump truck loads to be delivered to your local waste water plant
9. If the snow and ice will be left outside to melt, consider posting a sign deterring kids

### CONCRETE CLEAN UP

Using the ice resurfacer squeegee on the concrete to suck up the water and paint is not advised. This portion of the clean up will take some man power. You will need six to eight people to grab hand squeegees and start walking. Hosing the paint down toward the exit will help flush the concrete, and aligning your squeegees will help speed up the process. After the majority of the paint and water is cleared from the concrete, it's time to bring out the floor scrubber. It's recommended to simply use warm water. If you have contaminants on the slab, a Tri Sodium Phosphate (TPS) cleaner is best to use. Always do a final wash with the floor scrubber and clean water.

Now sit back and start planning for next year's start-up! ☺

*Craig Petersen is the director of operations at Mullett Ice Center in Hartland, Wisconsin. He also serves on the RINK Magazine editorial board.*

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