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Water Rescuers Prepare With Icy Swim

Dozens Attend Water Rescue Training In Boone County

Reported by Laura Borchers // E-mail

POSTED: 5:55 pm EST January 26, 2008
UPDATED: 7:15 pm EST January 26, 2008



BOONE COUNTY, Ky. -- After another week of ugly winter weather hitting the area, some Boone County residents took to the lakes Saturday for a winter dip.

Crews with the Boone County Water Rescue said dozens of volunteers braved the chilly conditions to practice emergency water-rescue techniques.

Volunteers looked on as rescuers demonstrated how to check the ice and use expert techniques to pull victims from deadly-cold waters.

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"The moral of this training is stay off the ice," said Hatton.

He said the most important tip is to know help is nearby. He said the greatest thing to do if one falls through the ice is to find the edge of the ice and hold on and yell for help.

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Video: Chilly Water Helps Crews Plan For Ice Rescues

"We're training people to do the proper rescue with the proper equipment so they don't become victims themselves," said Lt. Rick Hatton, with the Boone County Water Rescue.

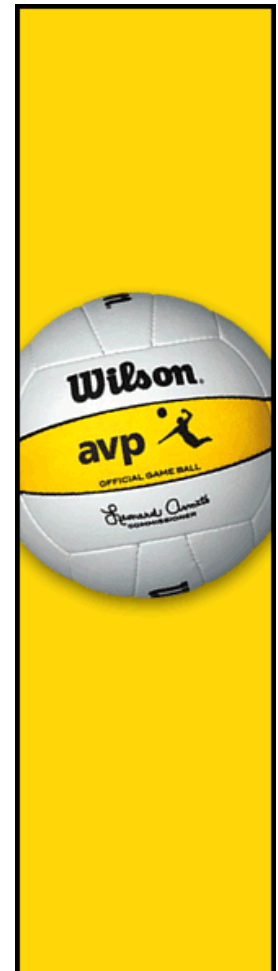
Hatton said volunteers train for dangerous situations more than 1,200 hours every year to keep their skills honed. They said they hope those long hours never need to be put to the test.

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