

## **Suggested Safety Announcements for Your School**

**For use during the spring thaw (approximately early March through middle of April)**

### **A spring water awareness safety message from the Rideau Valley Conservation**

**Authority:** When snow and ice melt and the spring rains arrive, flooding can occur in areas such as rivers, lakes, ditches, streams, creeks, and ponds. Fast moving, cold water can be very dangerous and difficult to get out of if you fall in. Remember to STAY AWAY to STAY SAFE this spring!

### **A spring water awareness safety message from the Rideau Valley Conservation**

**Authority:** With warmer temperatures and fast moving water, the ice found on rivers, lakes, ditches, streams, creeks, and ponds can be thin and weak. Never go onto the ice unless it has been checked by an adult. You could fall through and be swept under the ice in the fast moving water. Remember to STAY AWAY to STAY SAFE this spring!

### **A spring water awareness safety message from the Rideau Valley Conservation**

**Authority:** With spring rain and melt waters, flooded rivers, lakes, ditches, streams, creeks, and ponds fill with lots water. Banks are muddy, icy, and slippery and it can be easy to fall in to the dangerous cold and fast moving water. Never play near these areas in the spring and always tell an adult where you will be going. Remember to STAY AWAY to STAY SAFE this spring!

### **A spring water awareness safety message from the Rideau Valley Conservation**

**Authority:** Because spring flood water consists of melted ice and snow, the water is very cold. The temperature of the water is 0°C – 5°C. If you fall in, hypothermia can set in within 5 – 10 minutes of falling in. Once hypothermia sets in, you may become confused or unconscious and not be able to use your muscles the way you normally do to walk, swim or grab onto things. Hypothermia is a life threatening condition so remember to STAY AWAY to STAY SAFE!

### **A spring water awareness safety message from the Rideau Valley Conservation**

**Authority:** Water levels around dams can change very quickly, especially in the spring. Never play around dams or any other water during the spring time when the water is cold and fast moving. If you see someone fall in, don't go out and try to rescue them. Find an adult or call 9-1-1. Remember to STAY AWAY to STAY SAFE this spring!