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P R E S S R E L E A S E

DEEP and the City of Middletown Cautioning Users of Dooley Pond in Middletown to Stay Off the Pond While Repairs are Made to the Pond's Dam

Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the City of Middletown are asking the public to stay off of Dooley Pond in Middletown because the water level in the pond is being lowered so repairs can be made to the spillway alongside the pond's dam. While water levels are low in the pond, it is unsafe to go on the ice.

The water level is being lowered as a precaution and there is no imminent threat to public safety. However, no one should be on the ice while the water level is low. The water level will be lowered approximately four feet.

The need for expedited repairs at the dam (located near Route 17 south of Brushy Hill Road) was confirmed by DEEP inspectors following notification from the City of Middletown's Department of Public Works. The inspection revealed that the dam's left spillway training wall had partially collapsed. Once the water level has been sufficiently lowered, DEEP will work to stabilize the wall.

The Dooley Pond state boat launch has been closed and signs have been posted reminding the public to stay off the ice. When repairs are completed and the dam is deemed safe, the water level will be restored and the public will be notified.