

RAPID CRYSTAL ICE CO.

In the late 1800's Rapid Crystal Ice Co. was started in Rapid City, SD. The name was changed from Rapid City Ice to Rapid Crystal Ice Co. in 1932. The business is now owned and operated by Kim and Denise Smith.

Rapid Crystal Ice Co. has formed a museum named the "Old Ice House Museum". The museum documents the history of pre mechanical cooling, as we know it today. Using ice for refrigeration started approximately in 1830 with peak production of 25 million tons in 1886. By 1925 harvesting natural ice had begun to be replaced by mechanical refrigeration.

Rapid Crystal Ice Company's "Old Ice House Museum" operates from May-September. It is an informative collection of tools of the trade for the natural block ice era. The Old Ice House Museum had been featured in Farm Collector Magazine.