



#RESPECT THE WATER

**Every year people get into  
difficulty in quarry lakes**

**Please only enjoy water based activities where it is safe to do so**

# 10 reasons why water in active & former quarries can be dangerous

- The water in quarry lakes can be very deep
- The water in quarry lakes can be very cold
- Sudden, unexpected changes in depth due to shelving
- Steep or crumbling sides making it difficult to exit
- Submerged machinery or rocks that can injure jumpers or swimmers
- Underwater plants, machinery or debris that can trap you
- Currents or powerful underwater pumps
- Dead animals / animal excrement in water causing disease
- Pollution/high alkalinity causing rashes, irritation and stomach problems
- Poisonous algae

## If you get into trouble in a quarry lake

**'Float to Live'** – tilt your head back with your ears submerged. Relax and move your hands to stay afloat. Once you have adjusted to the water look for a place to exit – call for help.

## If you see someone in trouble in a quarry lake do not enter the water

**PHONE 999** and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service  
**FLOAT** tell them to stay calm and float on their back  
**THROW** them something that floats or find something to reach them and pull them in, wait for the emergency services

  
**#RESPECTTHEWATER**

Visit the following sites for more information and resources

Respect the Water – <https://respectthewater.com>

Stay Safe – [www.mineralproducts.org/Campaigns/Stay-Safe.aspx](http://www.mineralproducts.org/Campaigns/Stay-Safe.aspx)



Mineral Products Association, 1st Floor, 297 Euston Road, London NW1 3AD Tel 0203 978 3400 [www.mineralproducts.org](http://www.mineralproducts.org)

Based on original artwork by Department of the Environment Northern Ireland ©

