

Stay Safe - Public Safety at Active, Non-Active and Disused Quarry Sites

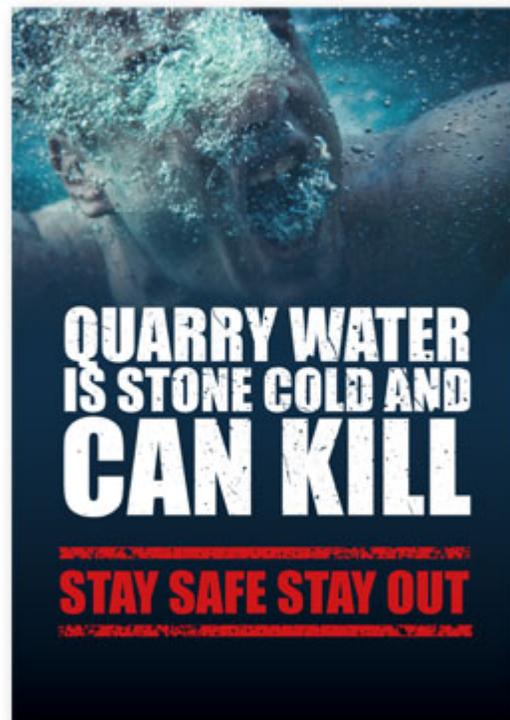
The formal start of the Easter school holidays will mean that young people will have even less to occupy themselves during the long days of isolation at home. Dog walkers and other adults may also be seeking new places to exercise as access to some parks and nature reserves are restricted.

Quarries may be perceived as an attractive alternative, especially for those irresponsible individuals looking for locations where they may be able to gather in small groups without being observed by others.

Disused quarries or sites that have recently been rendered inactive, particularly those with water, will be particularly alluring. Sites that already have a history of the public entering uninvited may be even more vulnerable in the present climate. Sites close to urban conurbations are also vulnerable.

Most leisure and sports facilities are closed and individuals wanting to cool off during periods of warm weather may be tempted to take a dip in a quarry lake.

MPA urges all its members to ensure that they have checked warning signs, fencing, reviewed the public safety risk assessments for all the sites which they are responsible for and considered whether the measures are still appropriate. It is possible that with the recent closures that companies have had to introduce quickly, and with changes in personnel, that some revisions may be necessary.



Members may find it useful to review MPA's recently updated '[Guidelines for the Management of Public Safety on MPA Members' Operational and Non Operational Sites](#)'.

RoSPA's [Managing safety at inland waters](#) is also available as a free digital download. This publication contains advice and resources for site managers and duty holders at UK inland water sites. It reflects recent developments in criminal and civil case law. Topics include advice and practical examples on risk assessment, selecting and evaluating controls, creating and aligning water safety policies.

Safety Campaigns

MPA will be supporting a number of campaigns being run by allied organisations such as the National Fire Chief Council's 'Be Water Aware' Campaign commencing on the 20th April.

MPA would encourage member companies to share the resources produced for these campaigns with their staff via your internal communication channels. They are well produced water safety messages that help raise public awareness and will help save the lives.

The RNLI has just launched a series of short videos for young children with some related follow up activities. They will be run live on Wednesday mornings but can be viewed at other times. A fun way to help fill a young person's time and help raise their water safety awareness. Please share this link with your employees. <https://www.facebook.com/rnli/posts/10157547109793999>.

On a broader note – RoSPA has launched a series of resources about keeping safe at home. Please also share this resource with your employees. <https://www.rospace.com/campaigns-fundraising/current/coronavirus>.

MPA Resources and Support

A range of resources that summarise the key safety messages are available from MPA if required. These can be ordered directly from David.Yelland@mineralproducts.org.

Please contact Elizabeth.clements@mineralproducts.org should you require any further information or support from MPA.