

Further information

For further information on water safety visit:

www.manchesterfire.gov.uk

www.rospa.com

www.nationalwatersafety.org.uk

For free home safety advice, call us now on freephone
0800 555 815

Reference FSC0041 B

www.manchesterfire.gov.uk

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Water Safety



GREATER MANCHESTER
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

www.manchesterfire.gov.uk

EVERY YEAR people drown IN OPEN WATER AROUND GREATER MANCHESTER



Water safety advice

As temperatures rise, it's tempting to cool off with a swim in a river, canal, lake or reservoir. Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service is regularly called to rescue people who have got into trouble in the water.

What are the dangers?

- ⚠ There is no supervision.
- ⚠ The cold water temperature can claim your life in minutes - even if you are a strong swimmer.
- ⚠ It's difficult to estimate the depth of the water. It may be much deeper or much shallower than expected.
- ⚠ There are often no suitable places to get out of the water due to steep slimy banks or sides.

- ⚠ There is no way of knowing what lies beneath - there could be weeds, pipes, shopping trolleys, sharp metal or broken bottles.
- ⚠ Swimming in open water can lead to a variety of serious illnesses.
- ⚠ There may be hidden currents. Flowing water or swimming in the sea can be especially dangerous.
- ⚠ Alcohol and swimming don't mix - perception and capability are both effected by drinking.

What should I do if I see someone in difficulty?

Alert someone, preferably a lifeguard. Or, dial 999 and ask for the fire and rescue service. Explain your location clearly and describe any landmarks.

Enjoy the water safely this summer

- ✔ Swim somewhere safe - the swimming baths.
- ✔ Obey the warning signs around reservoirs, lakes, canals, rivers and at the beach.
- ✔ Value your own safety first - jumping into the water to rescue pets or belongings can be highly dangerous.
- ✔ Know what to do in an emergency - ring 999 and ask for the fire and rescue service. Explain your location clearly and describe any landmarks.
- ✔ Enjoy organised water sports in a safe environment - with the correct equipment and a qualified instructor.



dying for a dip?

Don't risk it BE SAFE AROUND WATER