

Further information

For further information on water safety visit:

www.manchesterfire.gov.uk

www.rospace.com

www.nationalwatersafety.org.uk

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

Reference FSC 0041 B

www.manchesterfire.gov.uk

[facebook.com/manchesterfire](https://www.facebook.com/manchesterfire) twitter.com/@manchesterfire

Water Safety



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