

## **Stay out and Stay Alive: Fence, Sign and Patrol Dangerous Areas on Your Property**

Each year, dozens of people are injured or killed while exploring or playing in quarry lakes, pits, mine shafts and other dangerous areas. Thrill-seekers may be driving ATVs or SUVs, riding mountain bikes, climbing, partying, swimming and diving in quarries, or jumping from highwalls. Unfortunately, the hazards are not always obvious, and warnings (i.e., signs) are often ignored. Water-filled quarries and pits may hide rock piles and ledges, old machinery and other hazards. The water can be deceptively deep or shallow and dangerously cold. Steep, slippery rock walls make exiting the water challenging. Hills of loose material can easily collapse on an unsuspecting biker or climber. Highwall perimeters may be near public roads and not fully bermed, or previously functioning berms may have become eroded over time.

Make it a priority - especially during the warmer summer months - to schedule staff to periodically monitor and patrol any potentially dangerous areas on your property where recreation-seekers might want to play. Ensure that dangerous areas are properly fenced and signed. Warn friends, family and especially young people (teens and 20s are the most frequent victims) to “stay out and stay alive.”

### **What This Means for Counties**

Patrol your signed and fenced areas periodically to ensure that hazardous areas are not being used by the public for recreational purposes.

For more information, contact CTSI at 303-861-0507.