

**STAY  
STAY OUT  
ALIVE**

Dozens of people lose their lives in recreational accidents on both active and abandoned mine properties every year.

This is why, in 1999, MSHA established "Stay Out-Stay Alive," a public safety campaign to educate the public about the hazards at mines.

"Stay Out-Stay Alive" is a partnership made up of federal and state agencies, private organizations, businesses, and individuals. MSHA and its partners visit schools, social groups, and community events nationwide.

### **Mines Are Not Playgrounds!**

- ✓ Half of all victims are between 15-25 years old.
- ✓ Males account for more than 9 out of 10 fatalities.
- ✓ Drowning is the most common fatal accident at mines, followed by vehicle crashes and falls.

### **Don't Become a Victim**

- ✓ Be aware of your surroundings.
- ✓ Obey warning signs.
- ✓ Don't fall victim to peer pressure.

# Mining's Essential Role in Our Lives

Mining is a fundamental part of the American economy. More than half of the electricity generated in the U.S. comes from coal.

Mines are located in every state - from small sand and gravel operations to complex underground coal and metal mines, and extensive surface operations that use some of the largest industrial equipment ever built.

There are about 14,000 active and as many as 500,000 abandoned mines in the U.S.

As cities and towns continue to spread and as more people visit remote locations, the possibility of contact with a mine increases.

**So, please STAY OUT and STAY ALIVE!**

For further information, contact:  
Mine Safety and Health Administration  
(202) 693-9400

To report unsafe access to mines:  
(800) 499-1038

MSHA's web address: [www.msha.gov](http://www.msha.gov)



U.S. Department of Labor  
Mine Safety and Health Administration  
[www.msha.gov](http://www.msha.gov)

**STAY  
STAY OUT  
ALIVE**



**Mines and Quarries  
Are Not Playgrounds!**

## Underground Mines



Underground mines can have hidden shafts that drop hundreds of feet down—some mines have shafts that are as deep as a skyscraper.

Underground mines can have areas covered by decayed and rotten boards that can give way under the slightest weight.

Tunnels are prone to cave-ins and may contain deadly gases, flooded sections, and poisonous snakes. Unused or misfired explosives can be set off by the slightest disturbance or touch.

## Water-Filled Quarries

Quarries are the mining properties that claim the most lives every year.

Water-filled quarries have slippery slopes and unstable rock ledges,

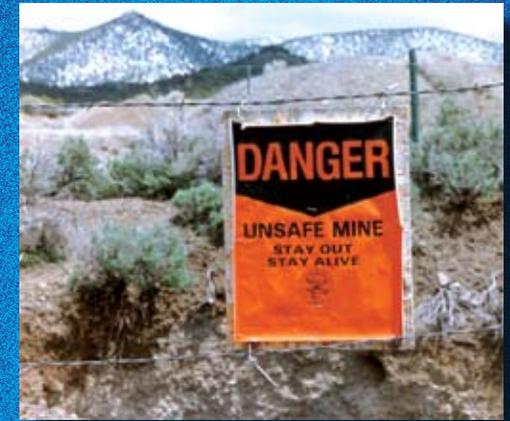
The water may conceal old machinery and sharp objects left behind after a mining operation closes.

Even expert swimmers may encounter trouble in the dangerously cold and deceptively deep waters.

Abandoned mine quarries do not have lifeguards on duty to rescue someone if they get in trouble in the water.



## Surface Mines



Old surface mines, popular spots for ATV and motorcycle enthusiasts, contain hills of loose materials or refuse heaps that can easily collapse upon an unsuspecting hiker or cause deadly rollovers.

Vehicle accidents at surface mines are the second most common cause of recreational fatalities on mining properties.

Surface mining landscapes change constantly so cliffs and steep ledges may not be visible until it's too late.