

It might seem like fun at first... **but think twice about** **swimming in open water...**



**Rivers, lakes
and reservoirs may
look safe but there
are dangers below
the surface that
can seriously injure
or kill you.**

Currents in open water are more powerful than they look. Even the strongest of swimmers can be caught off guard.

Swimming near river weirs is also extremely dangerous. The current can create a 'washing machine effect' that makes it very tricky to get out.

Weirs can also create foamy, white bubbles which make you lose buoyancy in the water, making it much more difficult to swim and stay afloat.

If you swim in open water not only do you put your life at risk, but also the lives of our firefighters and passers-by, who go in to try and rescue you.