

Fact sheet Play it safe



Swimming

Seqwater offers designated swimming areas at a number of our lakes in South East Queensland where you can take a dip and cool down.

Our recreation map will help you to plan ahead and find the perfect site for your next visit. Find out what outdoor activities are on offer, including facilities and location maps of each site. Go to seqwater.com.au/recreation to check it out.

But remember to play it safe - still water can still be dangerous. Please take care and only swim in the permitted swimming zone.

Sometimes we may close our lakes to water based activities, including swimming, due to water quality issues or if there is a special event scheduled. Please check our [recreation and safety notices](#) before heading out to ensure the lake is open to swimming.

While your safety is important to us, it is your responsibility. There are no lifeguards on duty at our designated swimming areas and while our rangers regularly patrol lakes and recreation areas, they can't be everywhere to help you.

Visit seqwater.com.au/playitsafe for important information about swimming at our dams and lakes.



A few simple rules

- For your safety, only swim in designated swimming areas.
- There are no lifeguards on duty at our swimming areas - always know where your children are.
- Never dive into water where you can't see the bottom.
- Always assess the conditions before entering the water. Our swimming areas are subject to changes in the natural environment from weather events and seasonal cycles. There may be debris in the water, fallen trees and algal blooms. This is normal and expected in any natural system.
- Be aware there could be submerged obstacles, even in the designated swimming area. If water levels fall, it may be necessary to close the swimming area.
- Do not swim after drinking alcohol.
- Use common sense and comply with on-site safety signage. Sometimes swimming won't be permitted due to water quality issues, such as blue-green algae, or because of a special event.
- Swimming near a dam wall, spillway or weir is strictly prohibited. It only takes ankle deep water to knock you off your feet. Swimming in weirs and fast flowing water can be fatal.
- For an organised event involving aquatic activities, such as swimming, you may need approval for your event from Seqwater seqwater.com.au/recreation/events-and-filming

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Where to swim



Swimming

- Enoggera Reservoir (Enoggera Dam)
- Ewen Maddock Dam
- Lake Atkinson (Atkinson Dam)*
- Lake Baroon (Baroon Pocket Dam)
- Lake Dyer (Bill Gunn Dam)
- Lake Moogerah (Moogerah Dam)
- Lake Somerset (Somerset Dam)
- Lake Wivenhoe (Wivenhoe Dam)

**Currently closed due to low water level*

Why don't all lakes have swimming areas?

The safety of the community comes first in any decision on recreational activities at Seqwater lakes.

Some land-based and water-based recreational activities in drinking water catchments are prohibited or restricted to protect water quality and ultimately public health. For example, you can swim at some Seqwater lakes, but not at others.

To determine what recreation activities can be undertaken safely at a drinking water storage lake, Seqwater conducts a detailed risk assessment.

This assessment considers the level at which the lake's water treatment plant can treat the predicted pathogenic levels in the water and identifies opportunities to reduce pathogen risks within the catchment to improve the catchment barrier.

The risk assessment takes into account numerous factors including, but not limited to, catchment health, catchment population, catchment size, catchment usage and treatment capability.

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Seqwater is the Queensland Government's statutory authority responsible for ensuring a safe, secure and reliable bulk drinking water supply for 3.1 million people across South East Queensland. We also manage open catchments, and maintain a careful balance of community access to our lakes and catchment land while ensuring a high quality water supply for the region. Enjoy your time at our lakes and play it safe!