



**Irish Water Safety**  
*Cumann Sábháilteacht Uisce*

**Water Safety**  
*Signs Code*



## Introduction

Irish Water Safety promotes water safety awareness. The Association has always received, in this respect, excellent support and co-operation from the Local Authorities. With a long coastline and many large and small lakes, rivers and estuaries, and with accidental drownings taking place each year, it is necessary to promote safety awareness throughout the year, with emphasis on periods when water recreation is at its height. In the interests of keeping water safety forefront in the minds of the public, Irish Water Safety, with technical assistance from the Department of Environment, has drawn up a **Water Safety Signs Code**, with a view to clearly identifying dangerous locations by means of signs which meet

international standards. The **Water Safety Signs Code** is recommended for adoption nationwide, as appropriate and desirable, by Local Authorities. The signs as set out in this leaflet are designed to enable the public, including tourists, to recognise the dangers. This is a voluntary code, which has not the force of law, but Local Authorities may make specific by-laws to cover water safety signs in particular areas.

The **Water Safety Signs Code** is recommended for adoption by Local Authorities in the interest of uniformity and in the interests of advancement of water safety awareness.

*The three categories of recommended signs, distinctly coloured, are:*

- Safety Signs
- Warning Signs
- Information Signs

# Water Safety *Signs Code*

## Safety Signs

Indicate areas where activity should not take place.



ss1  
No Swimming



ss2  
No Diving



ss3  
No Water Skiing



ss4  
No Surfing

## Warning Signs

Indicate areas where caution is required.



ws1  
Strong Currents



ws2  
Submerged Rocks



ws3  
Deep Water

## Information Signs

(Sample types)

Give general information.



is1  
Fishing Area



is2  
Swimming Area



**ss5**  
No Wind  
Surfing



**ss6**  
No Motorised  
Craft



**ss7**  
No Sub Aqua



**ss8**  
No Sailing



**ss9**  
No Fishing



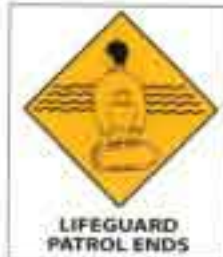
**ws4**  
Sudden Drop



**ws5**  
Shallow Water



**ws6**  
Unprotected Docks



**ss7**  
Lifeguard Patrol Ends



## **Irish Water Safety** *Comann Sabhailteacht Uisce*

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Irish Water Safety is the voluntary body established to promote water safety in Ireland.

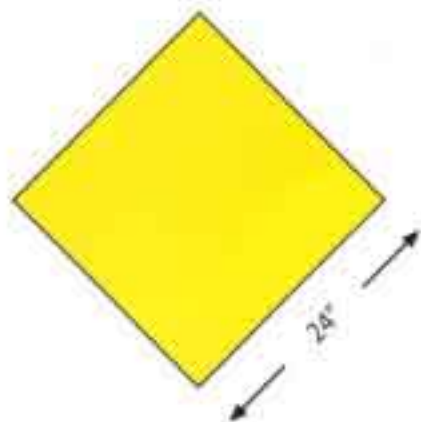
Is Comann Sabhailteacht Uisce an t-údarás neamh-ionann a bunaíodh chun sábháilteacht uisce a fiontú.





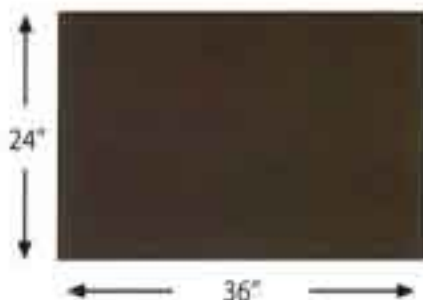
← 24" →

**Safety signs** indicate areas where activity should not take place. They are red bordered circular signs with a crossbar running from the top left hand corner to the bottom right hand on a white background. Any symbol must be black and place centrally on the background and must not obliterate the red crossbar. The red must cover at least 35% of the area of the sign. The sign will be 24" in diameter. No wording will appear on safety signs except on sign SS.6 "No Motorised Craft".



24"

**Warning signs** indicate areas where caution is required. These are black bordered diamond signs on a golden yellow background. Any symbol must be black. The side of the diamond will be 24" long. No wording will appear on the signs with the exception of signs WS.1 and WS.7. The wording on WS.1 will form part of the symbol in the diamond. The wording on WS.7 will be placed below the diamond which will be incorporated on a rectangular white background.



24"

36"

**Information signs** are signs that give information other than that given on warning or safety signs. These signs are of white symbols on a brown background and normally with as little wording as possible. The measurements are 36" by 24".

*Our Partners in Water Safety*

# *Pole Covers Ltd.*

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