



DMM Safety Alert: Trespasser Warning Signs

Many of the 470 mineral mines in Virginia operate on an intermittent basis and are unattended for extended periods of time. Some operations are unattended over weekends and holidays. Over the past six years, a number of children have drowned or been injured while trespassing on unattended mine property. The Virginia Division of Mineral Mining safety regulations require mine operators to restrict access to mine roads and openings with locked gates and warning signs (4VAC25-40-290).



Locked gate, but no warning sign as required.



Effective signs at entry points can reduce risk.

Although trespassing may increase during the summer or hunting seasons, mine operators must ensure that access to mine property is controlled at all times; especially when a mine is unattended.