

# Confined Open Water Training at White Star Quarry!

Since the shutdown, many dive shops and instructor that support scuba at White Star Quarry have expressed concern regarding their access to reliable pools this summer. We are happy to announce that we have implemented a plan that should help out with training beginning students who are anxious to get into the sport of scuba diving and join us in diving at White Star Quarry.

Recently, we raised one of the training platforms and brought it closer to shore. It now sits in about 4ft of water so it is perfect for confined open water training. There is a line running from the shore to the platform marking the 3ft area to make it easy to walk to. This platform is supported by the bottom on one corner and barrels on the other corners and it is anchored in place. In mid to late June, a new platform will be added to the quarry at the 8ft mark so the confined open water area can have a "deep end." Until that platform goes in the bottom there may be used. There will continue to be the two 20' platforms and if we can scrape enough money together, we may be putting another shallow water one in if we think it is needed.

Here is a diagram of how we have it currently laid out.



To help us out, the Director of the Park has given us permission to do the 10min tread water/float requirement in the area at the end of the shallow platform which is approximately 8ft deep. Supervising instructors or divemasters are required to be in full scuba with a safety float when the students are treading water. Remember, the beach is closed and normally no swimming is allowed in this area so please do not abuse this privilege.

The Park has also given us permission to have students swim their required 300yard snorkel swim exercise along the south wall of the quarry. A buoy located approximately 25 yards from the shallow platform will be permanently secured to the bottom as a distance marker. Again, Supervising instructors or divemasters are required to be in full scuba with a safety float when the students are performing this exercise. Snorkeling is normally not allowed at the quarry so please do not allow this privilege to be abused. It is recommended that students have a wetsuit, bcd or snorkeling vest when performing this exercise if allowed by training standards. Swimming is NOT allowed regardless of the circumstances so you may not use the 200yd swim to fulfill this requirement. Snorkeling is an alternative allowed by PADI and some of the other training agencies. Anyone caught swimming will be asked to leave the park and may be assessed a fine. Please do not mess this up for others.

Because of the fact that this is a limited area, and we are truly in an open water environment, we are asking that you limit your class size to four people regardless of what your training agency allows. There are no reservations, and we need to share our resources so please be courteous of others trying to teach in this area as well. Weekdays are best for "pool" classes since weekends tend to be busy.

All beginning Divers still need register with the envelopes and pay the \$20 per day to dive. Beginners are required to be with a certified and insured instructor in good status with their training agency. Please contact [whitestarquarry@gmail.com](mailto:whitestarquarry@gmail.com) if you have any questions or procedural concerns. Thank you for your support of White Star Quarry.