

Safety-Gram

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Who's on your mine site?

Big piles of dirt, pits full of water, ladders, parked heavy equipment: School is out and all these things can look like a wonderful playground for an adventurous child or teenager with a little time on his/her hands. For some, the added thrill of doing something you know you are not supposed to do is all that is needed for the youngster to go over, under or through the gate or fence that is supposed to be controlling access to your mine.

Unless your mine is staffed around the clock, there will always be an opportunity for unauthorized access. Fences and locked gates help but cannot prevent a determined individual from entering the mine area.

Evidence to look for:

- Tampering of locked gates
- Cut fences, broken fences
- Unrecognized vehicle tracks/footprints
- Non mine related litter
- Theft/Vandalism



Recommendations:

- Keep gates locked
- Monitor likely areas of access
- Warning signs
- Secure equipment/Remove keys
- Remove unused or unnecessary equipment

For areas where unauthorized access is a major problem, the use of alarms and security cameras might be considered.

OAC 460:10-17-14(5) – In all excavation of rock, provisions for safety to persons and to adjoining property must be provided including, but not limited to the following requirements: **(A)** Fencing may be required at any excavation in rock which exceeds twenty feet in depth. **(B)** Fencing along with “natural barriers” such as swamps, river, and marsh may not be required. **(C)** Fencing along sides of quarries on natural slopes or where no highwall is present may be required to discourage access to the highwall base of other parts of the quarry. Cultural or other barriers including, but not limited to rock barricades, elevated roadways, railroads and building facades may be accepted by the Department.