



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

'LEAD ON': COASTGUARD WARN OWNERS TO KEEP DOGS SAFE ON CLIFFS

The Coastguard is asking coastal walkers to stay safe. The coast is a fantastic place for us all to enjoy and we want people to get out there and explore but sadly 13 coastal walkers died in 2010.

Dog walking has its own hazards and we hope to reduce the large number of rescue incidents involving dogs (227 accidents in 2010) by reminding dog walkers to "put dogs on a lead near cliffs". There are so many exciting distractions for dogs on a coastal walk that even the most docile doggie has been known to go over cliff edges. To prevent owners risking their lives trying to rescue their dogs, our Coastguard Cliff Rescue Teams often get called out to those which survive.

HM Coastguard doesn't want to deter anyone from enjoying the coast - we just want to help folks, and their dogs, get back home in one piece!

Coastguard Search and Rescue Manager Roly McKie said,

"As a dog owner myself, I understand that some walks are more dangerous than others for a dog. I always keep my dog on a lead when walking on potentially dangerous coastal areas such as cliff tops. Please help the Coastguard and protect your dog from unnecessary harm by simply using a lead."

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