Hundreds of scuba divers have perished in caves yet trained cave divers make thousands of dives every year with NO fatalities.

What do they know that makes them safe?

Turn this page to find out

If you are the slightest bit motivated to dive caves or caverns please write the National Association for Cave Diving (NACD) for information on cave and cavern diving courses.

And... remember your death affects others besides yourself.

We are interested in your safety.

We are the National Association for Cave Diving.

We care.

CAVE DIVING

P.O. Box 14492 Gainesville, FL 32604

safecavediving.com © 2005 The National Association for Cave Diving Please read this brochure if:

You are planning a dive

in areas where there might be caves or caverns; this includes some seemingly harmless commercially operated springs.

You are interested

in increasing your knowledge of potential hazards while diving the cave environment.

You are an open water diver

or instructor who is not trained in cave diving.

You are interested

in pursuing cavern or cave diving in a safe, enjoyable manner.



- 1 Snorkel: useless in caves, could cause line entanglement
- 2 Reef gloves: limits sense of touch
- 3 Single tank: although limited work can be done on a single tank, the time to solve problems is greatly reduced
- 4 One light: the chances of light failing is 86% in 100 dives. If you are in a cave the last thing you may see is the dying glow of the filament when it quits
- 5 Alternate air source: some are inappropriate for caves
- 6 Weight belt: forces fins towards cave floor which can cause sudden loss of visibility
- 7 Large knife: good for skinning fish, bad for caves, causes potential line entanglement
- 8 Depth gauge and watch: some caves are deep and involve training in decompression procedures, backups should be worn
- 9 Short hose: cannot share air through tight passageways
- 10 Sport tables: good for no-decompression diving only
- 11 Single outlet valve: provides no safety cushion against regulator failure

Scuba diver or instructor certification: safe on the reef but does not qualify you to dive caves. Instructors sometimes compound the problem by taking themselves and students in cave areas



- 1 Dual orifice manifold: allows for safe management of regulator failures
- 2 Redundant regulators: provides safety cushion and alternate air source for sharing air, one with long hose
- 3 Primary light: long burn time and bright illumination
- 4 Safety/backup lights: minimum of 2
- 5 Reel & guideline: helps locate exit in low visibility and prevents confusion in complex tunnels
- 6 Safety reel: navigational aid in emergency
- 7 Watches or timers
- 8 Depth gauges
- 9 S.P.G.: provides for safe air management
- 10 Buoyancy device: keeps diver neutral and off the cave floor
- 11 Hood: protects head
- 12 Twin tanks: more air = more time to sort out problems
- 13 Power fins: overcome additional drag from cave gear
- 14 Thermal protection: many caves are cold
- 15 Backup knife or line cutter
- 16 Decompression tables, slate or wetnotes
- 17 Knife: small and razor sharp
- 18 Spare mask (optional)

Cave certification: trained, comfortable and responsible

Please let us help save your life!

FACT:

No amount of open water experience can prepare your for safe cave diving.

FACT:

No formal training in open water diving including instructor courses can prepare you for safe cave diving.

FACT:

Open water divers have a very BAD safety record in caves.

FACT:

Trained cave divers have an excellent safety record.



Safety, Education, Conservation Service & Exploration