

FORRES FRIENDS of WOODS and FIELDS: RISK ASSESSMENT

OPERATION: OPERATIONS, VOLUNTEER & PUBLIC SAFETY
 ASSESSOR: MICK DRURY

LOCATION: OUTDOOR SITES
 DATE : 1st Jan 2024, reviewed annually.

Hazard	Risk to trustees, volunteers, public	Risk level H/M/L	Existing controls. Further actions in bold.	Remaining risk level
Slips, trips, falls.	Sprains, strains.	M	Limited rough ground. Boots advised for work parties. First aid kit available. Keep external garden path clear of blackthorn regrowth.	L
Manual handling.	Sprains, strains.	M	Demonstrate good practice. Use barrow, trailer etc where possible.	M
Use of hand tools ... garden implements, saws, loppers etc.	Injury, accident.	M	Demonstrate use where necessary. Show safe carrying. Use of gloves, PPE where appropriate. First aid kit available.	L
Use of chainsaw, strimmer, mower, power tools, tractor, other machinery.	Injury, accident.	H	Only trained/competent operators with PPE. In general use when volunteers absent. Signage when close to paths.	M
Vehicle usage.	Collision.	H	Limited access by vehicles onto site. Awareness of public use of tracks.	L
Weather.	Sunburn, dehydration, cold & wet leading to hypothermia.	L	Advice re clothing, suncream, fluid intake. Area not remote. First aid available.	L
Children present.	Enhanced risk of injury, accident. Safeguarding.	M	Parents/guardians to be present, responsible for their children at all times and made aware of responsibilities. Volunteer leaders have safeguarding training & policy in place.	M

Ticks & insects.	Lyme disease. Bites & stings. Anaphylactic shock.	M	Advise re clothing and risk of tick bites, signs of lyme disease. Awareness of allergic reactions.	M
Fires.	Fire spreading through woodland or vegetation.	M	No burning in high wind nor when very dry. Fire must be supervised by responsible person. Check extinguished on leaving.	L
Medical issues.	Falling ill through allergic reactions, epilepsy, diabetes etc.	M	Awareness. Volunteers are advised to declare known issues and where medication etc kept. First aid cover.	L
Soil/water borne diseases. Sanitation. Poor hygiene.	Infection via Weil's, tetanus etc. Stomach upsets.	M	Clean portaloo regularly. Recommend using gloves and washing hands/using sanitiser before eating. Advise all re tetanus.	L
Contact with irritable or poisonous plants, fungi.	Allergic reactions, asthma. Stings. Poisoning.	M	Stress hygiene. First aid kit available. As above re personal medication.	L
Tree felling.	Injury, accident.	H	Volunteer chainsaw users to have had training and to use PPE. Other volunteers limited to hand tools on trees up to 15cm diameter. PPE in use & instruction given. Contractors only with separate insurance and certificated chainsaw users.	M
Horses, stock.	Aggressive reactions leading to injury.	M	No aggressive animals to be kept. Public advised to behave with consideration and keep dogs under control via signage .	L
Electric stock fencing.	Shock.	M	Voltage low. Live fencing kept back from paths. Signage where public walk. Disconnected when volunteers on site.	L
The Mosset Burn.	Work parties ... falling in, hypothermia, drowning.	H	Burn level usually low given flood scheme upstream. Avoid when higher.	L

Tree hazards.	Falling trees, deadwood.	H	Inspections annually & after storms alongside main paths, gathering places. Removal of hazardous trees, branchwood. Avoid woodland work in high winds.	L
Bracken	Carcinogenic spores; ticks	H	Check and avoid clearance in late summer when possible sporing; see above re ticks.	L

HEALTH & SAFETY. First Aiders. Mick Drury, Nick Molnar, Julie Adam and George Paul.

Please read the above Risk Assessment.

Let us know of any concerns that you may have.

Accidents should be reported to Nick M or Mick D for recording in accident book..

Main **first aid kit is kept** in locked metal container at garden, which is unlocked during garden sessions. Leaders carry other first aid kits.

Please let us know if you hold a valid first aid certificate and are willing to be called on if necessary.