



# Earth Trust Farm Risk Assessment

Date: 26/11/2024

## Zones B, C & D.

This risk assessment will be updated annually following a review or whenever further risks or control measures are identified.

**Prior to the task taking place the task leader will assess the task and give a risk assessment briefing to all staff and volunteers to include use of tools, site conditions and emergency procedure.**

What3Words access points for emergency services:	<b>Earth Trust Office</b> - OX14 4QZ – SU 563 925 - <a href="https://latest.tacky.poker">///latest.tacky.poker</a> <b>Clumps Car Park</b> - OX10 8NB – SU 567 923 - <a href="https://blackmail.nipping.cadet">///blackmail.nipping.cadet</a> <b>Church Meadow</b> - OX14 4RB – SU 565 934 - <a href="https://multiples.croak.dimension">///multiples.croak.dimension</a> <b>Sires Hill</b> - OX11 9BG – SU 568 917 - <a href="https://dripping.bleat.unrated">///dripping.bleat.unrated</a> <b>North Farm Buildings</b> OX10 8NB – SU 586 924 - <a href="https://outsiders.nicer.dean">///outsiders.nicer.dean</a> <b>Clifton Meadow</b> - OX14 4QR - SU 555 948 - <a href="https://cleanest.aquatic.spreads">///cleanest.aquatic.spreads</a>  Access: Pedestrian, 2WD, 4WD, Air.
Nearest A&E department:	<b>John Radcliffe Hospital,</b> Headley Way, Headington, Oxford OX3 9DU Tel: 01865 337267
Nearest minor injuries unit:	<b>Abingdon Community Hospital,</b> Marcham Rd, Abingdon OX14 1AG Tel: 01865 904346

HAZARD Potential Harm	PEOPLE AT RISK	EXISTING CONTROL METHODS Staff and volunteers instructed or trained to:	FURTHER ACTIONS REQUIRED	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS		
				WHO	WHEN	COMPLETED
<b>Adverse weather conditions:</b> Injury resulting from extreme weather conditions.	Staff Volunteers	Check weather forecast prior to starting work. Prepare for expected weather conditions e.g. sunscreen, extra water, extra layers or waterproofs. Monitor conditions throughout and stop if it becomes unsafe to continue.	If session in woods, or trees are overhanging area, beaufort scale of 7 (32mph) or over would usually require cancellation/change	Session supervisor	As required	Ongoing

			of site/activity as appropriate.						
<p><b>Poorly maintained fences and access furniture:</b> (Including benches, gates, etc.) Trips, falls, bruises, sprains, cuts.</p>	Staff, volunteers, public.	<p>Zoned inspections of infrastructure occur every:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f8d7da;">Zone B: 3 months</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">Zone C: 6 months</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #fff3cd;">Zone D: 12 months</td> </tr> </table> <p>Additional inspections are carried out when problems are reported. Identified hazards will be rectified immediately if possible or suitable warning notices erected if not. Furniture will be repaired or removed within one month.</p>	Zone B: 3 months	Zone C: 6 months	Zone D: 12 months				
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Zone D: 12 months									
<p><b>Uneven surfaces / steep banks:</b> Slips trips and falls</p>	Staff, volunteers, public.	<p>Passive checks of footpaths by staff, volunteers and visitors highlight hazards which will be rectified immediately if possible or a warning notice erected and repaired within one month. Zoned inspections ensure all footpaths are checked based on use. Wear appropriate footwear, with firm gripping soles.</p>	Work area to be checked as best as possible prior to start of session for any obvious or significant slip, trip, and fall hazards. Hazards to be cleared or highlighted.	Session supervisor	As required	Ongoing			
<p><b>Cattle Grazing on site:</b> Trampling, dogs worrying stock.</p>	Staff, volunteers, public.	<p>Warning signs at all entrances to inform visitors of the presence of cattle on site and a request to keep dogs on lead unless approached by cattle. Weekly checks of grazing stock and infrastructure (water provision, fences).</p>	Ongoing assessment of behaviour and any cattle exhibiting hazardous behaviour to be isolated and removed from public access areas.	Grazer, stock watcher volunteers.	Daily	Ongoing			
<p><b>Water bodies:</b> Risk of drowning, hypothermia.</p>	Staff, volunteers, public.	<p>In zones B, C &amp; D, wetland features are considered obvious to visitors. It is reasonable to expect visitors to exercise due caution when close to water features. Assuming due care and attention the likelihood of an accident is considered to be low and therefore the level of risk is acceptable.</p> <p>When working alongside waterbodies, carry a throwline.</p>							

		A permanent throwline is at River of Life II boardwalk, checked monthly (///daylight.chugging.nuptials).				
<b>Contact with water:</b> Weil's disease (Leptospirosis)	Staff, volunteers, public.	Cover cuts and abrasions. Wash hands after contact with water. Visit GP if developing flu-like symptoms.				
<b>Falling trees/tree limbs:</b>	Staff, volunteers, public.	Annual tree safety survey to identify works to reduce risk. Passive assessments undertaken as outlined in the Tree Safety Policy. No works/events should be carried out under or within falling distance of trees in high winds (over 30mph).	Work area to be checked as best as possible prior to start of session for any obvious or significant hazards. Hazards to be cleared or excluded from work area.	Session supervisor	As required	Ongoing
<b>Thorny bushes along paths and in work areas:</b> Cuts and grazes. Infections. Puncture wounds.	Staff, volunteers, public.	Ensure paths are kept clear of overhanging vegetation. Provide safety glasses if working in thorny areas with volunteers.				

<p><b>Dangerous rubbish left on site:</b> Cuts, infections</p>	<p>Staff, volunteers, public.</p>	<p>All staff or volunteers litter picking on site should read, understand and adhere to the Litter picking risk assessment. Work party leader will brief all volunteers of risks involved with litter. Clear litter when found or cordon off if unsafe to clear.</p> <p>Staff advised on correct procedure for dealing with sharps and provided appropriate equipment. Prompt response to public reports of sharps on site and police informed.</p>				
<p><b>Members of the public:</b> Verbal or physical abuse.</p>	<p>Staff, volunteers, public.</p>	<p>Do not engage with abusive or aggressive members of the public. Follow lone working procedure if alone. Leave the area or join colleagues and call the police.</p>				
<p><b>Dog faeces:</b> Stomach upset from bacteria, Toxocariasis</p>	<p>Staff, volunteers, public.</p>	<p>Pick up with poo bag and place in bin if safe to do so. Wear gloves when working if likely to come into contact with faeces. Wash hands before eating or smoking.</p>				
<p><b>Aggressive dogs:</b> Possible bites</p>	<p>Staff, volunteers, public.</p>	<p>Do not approach dogs on site without permission from the owner. Do not confront aggressive dogs or owners.</p>				
<p><b>Traffic:</b> Injury caused by impact with cars, motorcycles, cyclists, horse riders, pedestrians.</p>	<p>Staff, volunteers, public.</p>	<p>Use signage when working on public highways. Use high-vis vests when working by a public highway or if visibility of staff/volunteers is poor.</p>				
<p><b>Ticks:</b> Lyme's disease.</p>	<p>Staff, volunteers, public.</p>	<p>Work party/event leader to brief all volunteer volunteers of potential risk from Ticks and advise to wear long trousers/ sleeves. Check body after visit especially waist, legs, armpits. Visit GP if developing flu-like symptoms.</p>				
<p><b>Contact with irritable and poisonous plants:</b> Berries, fungi, wild parsnip and hemlock – possible</p>	<p>Staff, volunteers, public.</p>	<p>All volunteers/staff made aware of risks involved with berries, fungi or other plant material. Minimise contact with irritable plants as much as possible.</p>				

ingestion or photosensitive skin reaction		Wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking.				
<b>Stings from bees, wasps or hornets:</b> Possible allergic reaction to stings	Staff, volunteers, public.	Notify all staff and volunteers if you become aware of any nests on site and avoid the area.				
<b>Volunteers working on site:</b> Volunteers working on the site pose a potential risk of injury to themselves and other site users e.g. incorrect use of tools	Staff, volunteers, public.	Task specific risk assessments to be completed and shared with staff and volunteers working on site. Team leader responsible for briefing all volunteer work parties of risks and control methods involved with the specific site and task.				
<b>Contractors working on site:</b> Contractors working on the site pose a potential risk to themselves and other site users	Staff, volunteers, public.	Site risk assessment is shared with contractors. Contractors will be responsible for undertaking a risk assessment and sharing it with the Countryside Manager. Contractors will be responsible for their own health and safety and that of site users when works are in progress.				
<b>Fire:</b> Burns, smoke inhalation.	Staff, volunteers, public.	Fires are not permitted on site without permission from the Countryside Manager.				
<b>Authorised vehicles on site:</b> Bruises, broken limbs, severe injury	Staff, volunteers, public.	Speed limit of 5mph at all times. Pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders have priority.				

The task covered by this risk assessment should only be carried out by a member of staff or volunteer who is trained and authorised to do so. If you have any medical condition which might increase the likelihood of an accident or injury resulting from carrying out this task then you must discuss this with and be authorised by your line manager, before you attempt the task.

	Assessment date	Assessor	Position
<b>Initial assessment undertaken on</b>	03/12/2024	Tim Read	Countryside Manager.
Review 1 completed:			
Review 2 completed:			
Review 3 completed:			