

GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT FOR FUNGUS FORAYS

| Hazard | How Likely | Possible Injury | Recommendations to minimise the risk |
|---|------------|-----------------|--|
| Tripping or slipping | High | Minor | Wear strong boots and walk carefully. Avoid holes, tree roots and fallen branches |
| Hit by a falling tree | V. Low | Fatal | Keep out of woods during high winds. Be aware of leaning or hung-up trees and branches |
| Walking into low branches | Medium | Minor | Be observant for low branches |
| Getting stuck in mud | Low | Fatal | Keep away from pond sides and bogs & carry a mobile |
| Drowning | Low | Fatal | Keep well away from all open water |
| Hit by a vehicle on the road | Medium | Fatal | Keep clear of all vehicles especially if reversing |
| Contracting Toxicariasis | Medium | Major | Avoid dog faeces. Keep hands away from mouth and wash hands before eating |
| Contracting Leptospirosis | Low | Major | Avoid contact with open water or where rats may have been Keep hands away from mouth and wash hands before eating |
| Contracting Tetanus | Low | Major | Immunisation - (see GP). Avoid injury. Keep any wounds covered. Wash hands. |
| Contracting Lymes disease | Low | Major | Avoid areas where ticks may be present. Keep legs covered and check for ticks after trip. If you are bitten by a tick followed by flu-like symptoms contact your doctor |
| Hypodermic needle stick Injury | Low | Fatal | Be observant. Keep hands away from anywhere that you cannot see. If you suspect you have received a needle-stick injury, make the wound bleed, clean it. Then get a message to the leader and go straight to A&E |
| Getting Lost | Low | None | Stay in groups. Carry a mobile phone. If you leave early, please get a message to the leader so we know you are safe and don't need to search for you. Make a note of the Leaders mobile number. |
| Attacked by a person or a dog | V. Low | Major | Stay in groups, Carry a mobile phone |
| Cut by a pen-knife | Medium | Minor | Always cut away from body parts. Carry plasters: Only carry a legal size pen-knife |
| Poisoned by fungi | Low | Fatal | BMS forays are for the recording and study of fungi only. Please do not collect any fungi for consumption on BMS forays. |
| Ingesting bacteria causing stomach pains or diarrhoea | Medium | Minor | Avoid handling any rotting fungi or any other putrid material. Keep hands away from the mouth and wash hands before eating or smoking |
| Tripping over in the workroom | Low | Minor | Keep walkways clear and be observant |
| Caustic or toxic reactions from chemical reagents | Low | Major | Treat all chemicals with respect and handle carefully. Clean up any spills straight away and if skin gets contaminated wash of skin immediately |

While it is recognised that some members prefer to foray on their own, they must accept the increased risks involved and they are strongly encouraged to keep the Foray Manager/Local Organisers mobile numbers in their mobile phones in case they encounter any difficulties or have an accident.