

Activity:	Sherwood Bushcraft activities
Location:	Sherwood Pines - Sherwood Bushcraft camp
Employees covered by risk assessment:	Bushcraft Rangers, Rangers, Shadow Rangers, Volunteers
Members of public covered by risk assessment:	Participants, group leaders, Sherwood Pines visitors

Hazard	Location	Persons exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation / Monitoring
Separation from group	Forest environment	Participants Group leaders	Low - Medium	Session introductory talk to clearly state areas of the forest to be used / explored. Rangers and group leaders to ensure group remain together when walking to site. First-aid and accident reporting procedure in place; rangers carry mobile phones / radios. Group leader to ensure group size is as agreed through booking process. Group leaders responsible for any participant who removes themselves from activities.	Participants told to remain where they are if separated and wait to be recovered. Ranger and visiting group leader to do regular head counts to ensure the group are together.
Fire	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Medium	Safe fire lighting technique to be explained / demonstrated - see fire guidelines. Fire to be contained in fire pit / Kelly kettle / cob oven / Swedish candle. Sand bucket, water, fire blanket and burns kit to be available at all times. Rangers to ensure participants tuck in or tie back loose hair /	Ranger vigilance during session Monitor weather conditions - curtail if forest is extremely dry and windy. Periodic observation by line manager.

Hazard	Location	Persons exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation / Monitoring
				scarves / loose clothing. Hair bands available for use. Participants to be supervised by ranger / group leader. Fire to be fully extinguished before group leaves.	
Injury from equipment - Use of Kelly kettle	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Medium	Safe fire lighting technique to be explained / demonstrated. Kettles to be stable, on even ground. Safe lifting technique demonstrated i.e. keep handles at right angle to kettle to avoid burning hand. Do not look closely into kettle. Ensure bung is NOT in whilst boiling. Be aware of boiling water spitting - position spout on opposite side to ventilation hole in base and facing away from people. Beware of steam and spillages when pouring - place cups on surface to fill - do not hold cup whilst filling.	Ranger vigilance during session. Periodic observation by line manager.
Use of hand tools	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Medium	Safety talk to state tools must be used with extreme care. Correct tool use to be demonstrated by ranger - ensure firm footing, no gloves to be worn with swinging tools, gloves to be worn on non-sawing hand, two tools length working distance. Replace blade covering when not in use. Tools to be counted in and out.	Ranger vigilance during session Tools removed if group behaviour is not appropriate. Periodic observation by line manager.
Injury from collapsing shelter	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Medium	Correct shelter building and dismantling technique to be explained and demonstrated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ridge poles shoulder height or lower • No flat rooves • Dismantle with care, don't push from inside, don't throw material, take ridge pole down last. 	Ranger vigilance during session.
Use of knives	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Medium	Knives to be used whilst seated. Safety talk to state tools must be used with extreme care. Sit safe working distance apart. Demonstrate correct knife use position - taking care of femoral artery, hand holding wood always behind blade. Do not walk around with un-sheathed knife. Knives to be stored in a tool box when not in use.	Ranger vigilance during session. Tools removed if group behaviour is not appropriate. First aid kit available. Periodic observation by line manager.

Hazard	Location	Persons exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation / Monitoring
				Knives to be transported to site in tool box and stored away from public access. Knives to be counted in and out.	
Falling trees and flying wood, Kickback from heel of felled trees	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Medium	Safety talk to clearly state good working practice, especially regarding safe working distances. Participants made aware of safe and dangerous zones for fellers and risk of kick back. Wear hard hats when felling trees over 4" diameter at breast height. Inform all of danger from deadwood in the canopy loosened by falling tree. Only fell trees small enough to fell with hand tools. Curtail work in high winds.	Ranger vigilance during session. Periodic observation by line manager.
Manual Handling	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Medium	Instruct and monitor safe manual handling techniques, using legs and arms, not back, to lift, pull or push. Gloves to be worn where material is sharp / abrasive. To include dragging branches rather than carrying on shoulder - ranger to demonstrate technique.	Ranger vigilance during session Periodic observation by line manager.
Eye pokes from branches and pine needles	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Low	Ranger to clearly state risk. Care to be taken by all group members.	Ranger vigilance during session Periodic observation by line manager.
Picking bramble / bracken - cut fingers	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Low	Provide gloves for use during the session. Gloves must be worn when picking bracken.	Ranger vigilance during session. Periodic observation by line manager.
Bites & stings Tick bites Allergies Asthma	Forest environment	Rangers Volunteers Participants Group leaders	Medium	Booking forms request relevant medical information and allergies of group. Safety talk to inform of ticks and Lymes disease. Rangers to carry first-aid kits at all times.	Accident reporting procedures. First aid kit to include tick removal kit.

Hazard	Location	Persons exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation / Monitoring
Toxic plants - foxglove - fungi Animal waste	Forest environment	Rangers Volunteers Participants Group leaders	Low	Warn group of potential hazards. Ensure group clean hands after activity before eating / handling food.	Ranger vigilance. Hand washing facilities provided.
Slips, trips and debris hazards.	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Low - Medium	Warn group before shelter building activity of uneven ground and branches at eye level.	Ranger vigilance during session. Periodic observation by line manager.
Illness from poor hygiene	During session	Participants Group leaders Rangers Volunteers	Medium	Hand washing facilities provided at toilets and in kitchen area. Groups warned of risks.	Ranger vigilance during session. Periodic observation by line manager.