



Pershore's Community Wetland & Local Nature Reserve

www.avonmeadows.org.uk

Volunteers' Code of Conduct

(This Code of Conduct is taken from Volunteer Handbook v1.3. In the event of any conflict between this Code of Conduct and the Volunteer handbook it is the Volunteer Handbook that shall prevail.)

General Rules for Members

All members shall:

1. Support the objectives of the FoAM. Failure to do so may lead to membership termination.
2. Abide by the Countryside Code, that is;
 - be safe and follow signs
 - leave gates and property as you find them
 - protect plants and animals and take your litter home
 - keep dogs under control
 - consider other people
3. Not disturb breeding birds (except for appropriately authorised research or recording).
4. Not pick or collect any plant, insect or other animal except for genuine scientific purposes. (Note that in the case of moth trapping all moths should be released at the end of the session).
5. Report to a Committee Member or other responsible person damage to or misuse of the Avon Meadows.

Work Party Health and Safety

General

1. Work Parties should only be organised under the supervision of a designated and trained Work Party Leader.
2. Many people have medical conditions some of which may have an effect on the type of work they can undertake during a work party or any essential action following an accident. It is your responsibility to notify the Work Party Leader of any such condition or medication.
3. All work parties and other events organised by FoAM shall include a minimum of 2 persons at all times.
4. A trained First Aider should be present on all work parties.
5. Please wear all personal protective equipment provided.

6. In hot weather make sure you have adequate sun protection and drinking water.

Powered Equipment

1. No persons under 18 years of age shall use powered equipment on Avon Meadows.
2. People using such equipment should have had appropriate training in its safe use.
3. Mains electrical equipment, powered by one of the generators, must always have its electrical output connected through an earth leakage trip.
4. Check that all other people around are clear before connecting electrical equipment.

Working in Water

1. When working in waders great care should be taken recognising that the bottom of the pools may be very uneven and comprise soft mud.
2. When anyone is working in water they must have a partner ashore and a throwing line must be available.
3. Unless special provision is made nobody should work in water greater than 0.9 metres deep.
4. Although not essential, it is recommended that when wading in water a stout probing stick should be carried to assess the nature of the bottom and to stabilise the person in the water.

Work Party Leaders

1. They will be appropriately trained in supervising the work being undertaken.
2. A certificated First Aider will be present.
3. A first aid kit will be situated at a convenient central point near to the work areas.
4. Give volunteers the opportunity to give information about any relevant medical conditions.
5. Ensure that you have an emergency contact telephone number for all volunteers present.
6. Carry a mobile telephone and ensure that it has a signal in the work area.
7. Be prepared to give directions over the telephone to the emergency services in the event they are required.
8. Assess the nature of the work to be carried out and ensure that the volunteers are aware of the safe and effective way to carry out such work.
9. Ensure that the appropriate personal protective equipment is available.
10. When carrying out activities, particularly close to a path, (i.e. brush cutting, tree felling or pollarding) take great care to keep all people back or stop working while they pass. (note animals may be nervous of noisy machinery).

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Approved by Committee on 3 Sep 2019.