

Kingfisher Bushcraft Workshop/Courses **Risk Assessments and Hazards**

This is a non-exhaustive list of issues, materials and tools with associated risks, hazards and control measures

COVID 19:

COVID 19 signage and sanitisers will be deployed in key areas, and all tools will be disinfected prior to any workshops. Participants will be encouraged to keeping themselves and loved ones safe following current guidelines.

- *Do not attend if you are suffering from any symptoms associated with COVID 19.*
- *Limited access to food and drinks – bring your own lunch and drinks*
- *Masks to be worn when queuing (and any necessary mingling)*
- *Socially distanced workstations (masks optional when working)*
- *No sharing or switching of workstations*
- *Use hand sanitiser as necessary*
- *Payment in advance*
- *Details taken for track and trace*

Hand tools:

- *Risks include cuts, scrapes, bruises, puncture wounds*
- *Control measures – follow instructor guidance before using hand tools*

Knives

Saws

Axes

Other tools

Fire

- *Risks include burns, scalds and risk of explosion, respiratory issues from smoke inhalation, damage to property*
- *Control measures – follow guidance from instructor, use gloves or pot hooks for handling hot items. Ensure good ventilation. Avoid toxic wood. Have appropriate means to extinguish fire (water/fire blanket etc), other than when groups are creating their own small fires only the central purpose built fire altar shall be used. Participants shall site their small group fires away from trees to minimise risk of underground root fires along with any other lower storey undergrowth. Small fires shall only be live for a short duration to further eliminate risks. Participants shall know where access to water is and residual charred materials to be collected up and taken to the central fire altar.*

Camp stoves for boiling water and cooking

Tins for charring materials

Blow lamps

Cigarette lighters

Ferro rods

Other methods of fire starting

Powders and dusts:

- *Risks include irritation and allergic reaction through contact with the skin, the eyes, ingestion or inhalation*
- *Control measures – follow guidelines from instructor, use gloves, facemask and eye protection when handling where appropriate*

Plant Resins including

Wood dust

Pine resin

Flower pollen

Other dry materials

- *Risks include irritation and allergic reaction through contact with the skin, the eyes, ingestion or inhalation*
- *Control measures – follow guidelines from instructor, use gloves, facemask and eye protection when handling where appropriate*

Charcoal

Chalk

Wood, bark, fibres, leaves, fruits, nuts, fungi, naturally occurring oils and resins:

- *Risks include irritation and allergic reaction through skin contact. There is also the slight possibility of irritation and allergic reaction through contact with the eyes, through ingestion or inhalation*
- *Control measures – follow guidelines from instructor, use gloves. Consider using a facemask and eye protection when handling where appropriate*

Open fire:

- *Risks include burns from fire, sparks and embers, hot items and smoke inhalation*
- *Control measures – follow guidance from instructor, use gloves for handling hot items, avoid sparks, fire extinguishers, water and fire blankets. Have an agreed fire meeting point outside entrance of Lime Wood gate*

Boiling water in a Kelly Kettle (or similar)

Fire and smouldering embers

Candles

Charcoal biscuits

Weather and terrain:

- *Risks include hypo/hyperthermia, sunburn, mechanical injury from trips and falls, scrapes, cuts, puncture wounds, stings and bruises, fractures and broken bones, drowning in stream*
- *Control measures – follow guidance from instructor, participants will dress according to the weather and season with spare clothes and rain barrier, and will have appropriate footwear on covering toes and ideally offering ankle support. Participants will bring their own sunscreen and sun hat if the weather dictates, and will bring their own insect repellent if required and be aware that ticks are prevalent in the area due to the nature of the reserve. Participants should avoid wearing excessively baggy clothing and are encouraged to have long sleeves and trousers, those with long hair should tie their hair back when doing activities. Upon arrival participants are to be shown the boundaries of Lime Wood and areas of risk such as nettle patches, hemlock patches and thorned foliage. Participants shall also be discouraged from ingesting any fruits, seeds, leaves roots, fungi or anything else unless the instructor has safely identified it as safe to consume (with the caveat that individuals can still have a reaction upon ingestion).*

Instructors shall undertake a dynamic risk assessment prior to sessions to identify new risks such as dead overhanging branches. Participants are to bring their own refreshments as well as a packed lunch and snacks. They shall be reminded to stay hydrated throughout the course of the session and to take regular breaks between the main lunch break. Hot drinks and snacks may be provided during break times however individuals will be responsible for any allergies that they or people in their care may have.