



Essex Badger Protection Group
Health & Safety Policy

Policy Statement

- To provide adequate control of the Health and Safety risks arising from our activities for volunteers and members when undertaking tasks on behalf of the Group.
- To provide and maintain safe and healthy conditions and environment for all our volunteers and members, plus any other people who are directly affected by our activities, such as members of the public.
- To provide relevant advice, training and equipment to keep our volunteers and members safe.
- We commit to review and revise this policy as necessary at regular intervals.

Responsibilities

- Ultimate responsibility for Health and Safety in all activities conducted on behalf of the group lies with the Committee.
- This responsibility is delegated to those members taking part in each event or activity. These member/s will be responsible for ensuring that this policy is upheld.
- All members will be made aware of this Health and Safety Policy and all group risk assessments.

All members and volunteers have a responsibility to:

- Cooperate with the committee or relevant responsible person on health and safety matters.
- Not interfere with anything provided to safeguard their health and safety.
- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety through:
 - use of a risk assessment form (if applicable),
 - reading the Group policies and procedures,
 - working safely and responsibly,
 - using equipment correctly in accordance with training and instructions,

- report all health and safety concerns to the Chairperson or a committee member.

Risks Assessments

- General Risk assessments for our main activities are available for all members on the EBPB website ([Group Policies | Essex Badger Protection Group](#))

These include: -

- Sett Surveying,
- Rescues,
- Road Traffic Accident (RTA) checks,
- Garden Visits
- Events and Stalls at third-party events,
- Artificial Sett Building

These should be applied accordingly, assessing the risk for each and undertaking the mitigation annotated. Where members are not able to mitigate against any risk this must be raised to the committee for resolution, before the activity commences.

- Risk assessments for other activities will be carried out by the member or volunteer who is planning that activity. That person is responsible for liaising with the committee member in charge to ensure hazards are dealt with as outlined in the risk assessment in order to remove/reduce the risk.

Equipment

- All equipment (such as that used for rescues and events) will be maintained and checked by the member who has been given responsibility for it.
- Any problems found with equipment or any need for additional equipment to safely undertake the role must be reported to a committee member.
- Appropriate training will be given as necessary.

Safe handling and use of substances

- Only regulated substances will be used and in line with manufacturer's guidelines.
- The Committee will be responsible for identifying any substances which are required to be used by members.
- These will be outlined in relevant risk assessments and training that is given.

Information, instruction and supervision

- The Health and Safety information, as well as relevant risk assessments, will be made available to any members or volunteers undertaking tasks on behalf of the group.
- Supervision and training of new members. Where necessary, will be undertaken and monitored by an experienced committee member.
- Other training needs that are identified will be arranged by the committee.

Accidents & First Aid

- First aid equipment will be available at the reputable venues we book for events. Should we organise our own, we will have a first aid trained person present.
- Active Members are to refer to the relevant risk assessments (e.g. rescues, RTA checks) for more detailed information.
- All accidents during activities on behalf of the group are to be recorded using an accident form available from the committee and reported to the committee or Chairperson.

Emergency Procedures

In an emergency, members and volunteers should follow the general public emergency procedures to get to safety or get help, and call 999 if necessary.

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