

RISK ASSESSMENT
For Volunteers Working on the Land
Last Updated 16/09/2025

VOLUNTEERS	Any age	PAGES:	1
ASSESSORS:	Claire Gregory	ACTIVITY DATE:	Ongoing
WHAT COULD GO WRONG	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED?	MEASURES IN PLACE	RISK
Cuts and grazes and danger of infection including water born infection.	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gardening gloves to be worn. 2. Nails, screws and wire protruding from wood or metal may cause scratches 3. Beware of slipping 4. Wash hands if cut 5. First Aid Kit and book are available in the shed and toilet building 	High
Upset stomach	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hand washing facilities provided. 	Low
Injuries from tools, including muscle strains	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training to be given in the correct use of tools. 2. Warning not to overstrain – take rests, carry smaller loads 3. Supervisor to keep an eye out for incorrect or dangerous use of tools while working 4. All participants to take due care and precaution and to be aware of the proximity of other people. 5. First Aid Kit and book are available in the shed and toilet building. Mobile phone available. 	Medium
Potentially dangerous areas	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Volunteers to be briefed not to go on the mound area beyond the holly. 2. When entering the holly glade protect eyes from holly branches over the entrance. 3. Large hole bottom right of the field in the Forest Garden 	Low
Tripping/Slipping	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take care when walking – be aware of brambles and loose stones. Do not run. 2. Weed fabric is slippery – take care 	Medium
Bees and other stinging insects	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Warn and point out hives. Ask if anyone allergic to bees. 2. Take to hospital if stung and symptoms of apoplectic shock. 	Medium
Sunburn and dehydration	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Request that volunteers bring drinks, and suncream if appropriate. 2. Remind volunteers to take plenty of rest and refreshment breaks. 3. Drinks and suncream are available in shed if needed. 	Medium
Alpacas could move erratically and kick if alarmed and cause injury. Animals may nip	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Warn volunteers to behave quietly and calmly around animals. 2. Do not corner the animals or try to reach out and touch them. 3. Do not stand directly behind an alpaca 4. Feed animals with hand held flat, do not curl fingers around food. 	Low

fingers when feeding.		5. Do not hand feed pigs 6. Supervised by an experienced handler at all times	
Falling into deep water	All	1. Point out areas of deep water 2. Ask volunteers to remain on dry land and take care around pond edges 3. Fence off potentially hazardous areas of water	Low
Injuries from physical tasks including building work	All	1. Training to be given in lifting, carrying and digging tasks 2. Training to be given in handing stones and working in rocky areas 3. Warning not to overstrain – take rests, carry smaller loads 4. Warning not to throw or cast stones, all stones to be carefully placed 5. Warning not to work in rocky areas without suitable footwear 6. All participants to take due care and precaution and to be aware of the proximity of other people when moving and handling rocks 7. Supervisor to keep an eye out for incorrect or dangerous practices when working on building tasks	Medium