

## Forres Community Woodland Trust : RISK ASSESSMENT

**SITE LOCATION:** Sanquhar Woods  
**ASSESSOR:** Dan Puplett  
**DATE :** 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015

**OPERATION:** Volunteer conservation work

HAZARD	RISK TO VOLUNTEERS	RISK LEVEL H/M/L	EXISTING CONTROLS. FURTHER ACTIONS (BOLD)	REMAINING RISK LEVEL
Woodland terrain : steep slopes, uneven ground.	Slips, trips, falls and subsequent injury	M	Participants advised to take due care. Appropriate footwear to be worn. First aid provision.	M
High winds.	Falling trees, limbs	M	Check weather reports. Dynamic risk assessment to check worksite for hazardous branches or hung up trees. Avoid woodland work in high winds.	L
Cold, wet weather.	Hypothermia	L	Appropriate clothing to be worn.	L
Hot weather.	Sunburn, dehydration.	L	Check weather reports when possible. Advice on sun protection measures, clothing and the need to drink water.	L
Use of tools/equipment (including saws and loppers) for tree removal.	Cuts, amputation injuries	M	All volunteers to be given clear instructions and demonstration of safe tool.	L
Pulling up young trees	Strains, sprains.	M	Instruction in correct manual handling / pulling techniques.	L
Sharp branches and needles	Eye injury	M	Goggles provided for tree removal work.	L
Tree planting	Back strain	L	Advice given on good planting technique.	L
Insects, ticks.	Bites, stings, Lyme disease. Anaphylactic shock.	M	Repellent used and appropriate clothing worn. First aid provision. All advised on reducing chances of being bitten by ticks, and instructions given tick removal and symptoms of Lyme disease.	M
Plants	Stings, rashes, scratches.	L	Appropriate clothing. Volunteers advised to avoid contact with giant hogweed.	L
Pollen/spores : allergy/asthma.	Allergy/asthma.	M	Known allergy sufferers to have medication.	L
Soil/water borne diseases.	Tetanus. Weil's disease, stomach upsets.	M	All advised to have vaccinations and boosters. Good personal hygiene, especially if in contact with water from burns.	L
Medical conditions.	Forgotten medicines, reoccurrence of conditions etc	M	Mobile phone and vehicle available for emergencies.	L
Lone working/walking.	Any of the above, and possibility of heart attack etc.	M	Avoid lone working	L

Risk level = likelihood x severity. High, medium or low.