

# Site Hazard Card

## Holt Hall Field Study Centre

### Aquatic Ecology

#### Location

Holt Hall Lakes, River Glaven

#### Risks

The following risks are applicable to anyone taking part in this activity.

- Problems due to inadequate supervision.
- Lake and river risks including drowning, being swept downstream, sickness, weils disease and falling into hole in island.
- Hypothermia, heat stroke and sunburn.
- Injuries from slipping over.
- Injuries from improper use of equipment.
- Sheep worrying.
- Minibus Travel.

#### Safety measures

- Staff: student ratio must be at least 1:6+1 for year 3 and 1:15+1 for years 4-6, not including Holt Hall Staff but wherever possible use a ratio of 1:10+1 for years 4-6. Staff: student ratio must be 1:15+1 for years 7-13.
- All students must be informed about how to carry out fieldwork safely.

#### Drowning / swept downstream

- Students must work from the bank or jetty at Holt Hall Lake and should not wade into the water.
- Students may not work in the river Glaven if it is over 'welly' depth or flowing fast.
- Students must be under control and watched by the leader at all times.
- At the Home Farm fieldwork site, students may only get into the water at the ford, and only after checking the depth and speed of the water. The water at the 'girder' bridge is too deep (1m) and the current and speed at the flume and flume-pool are too strong.

#### Weil's Disease and other water-borne ailments

- All students must wear wellies.
- All students must wear plastic gloves to avoid contact with lake water.
- Students must not be allowed to splash each other and must behave sensibly at all times.
- Students working in or near the lake or river should cover any open wounds with a waterproof plaster. If it is not possible to cover an open wound, the student must not be allowed to come into contact with water.
- Students with severe cases of eczema must not be allowed to come into contact with lake or river water.
- Students must take a shower if they fall into the lake or river.

- Students must not eat or drink at any time during this activity.
- All students must wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water at the end of this activity.
- In the event of students developing flu-like symptoms after coming into contact with lake or river water parents/teachers should inform the appropriate authorities of the nature of the activities carried out.

### **Falling into hole in island**

- No students allowed on the island.

### **Hypothermia, heat stroke and sunburn**

- Students must be dressed suitably for the conditions and use sun block if appropriate. Hats may be advisable.
- In case of immersion, blankets must be kept in the minibus and an exposure blanket in the first aid kit. If necessary students may be returned to Holt Hall, be taken to accident and emergency at Cromer hospital or an ambulance called depending on the severity of the incident.

### **Injuries from slipping over**

- No student may move quickly or without due care in the river.
- Letheringsett Ford concrete slip-way is often particularly slippery and students and visiting staff must be warned before they go near the river.
- The leader must carry a first aid kit which contains fresh water, cleansing wipes and plasters so that minor wounds can be dealt with without removing a student and a member of staff back to the minibus.
- Students must move slowly when walking in the river and be discouraged from getting feet wet or falling over due to carelessness.

### **Injuries from improper use of equipment**

- Students must take care not to hit each other with the end of a net.
- Working areas must be spaced out to reduce the possibility of net injuries.
- Trays and other equipment may not be placed on the estate road at Holt Hall or the road at Letheringsett Ford. Be aware of occasional traffic.
- Ranging Poles must be carried vertically with the point downwards.
- Do not run or jump when carrying a ranging pole.
- Do not put any weight on a ranging pole as they will break or bend.
- Stay away from metal ranging poles in a thunderstorm.
- Any lost or broken equipment must be paid for.
- Water test tablets should not be eaten so students under 16 should be supervised.
- Indicator for measuring pH is poisonous, and flammable so students under 16 should be supervised. Students must wear safety glasses when using universal indicator solution (CLEAPSS Hazcard 032).
- Sodium Hydroxide (CLEAPSS Hazcard 091) and Sulphuric Acid (CLEAPSS Hazcard 098) are highly corrosive. Extreme care must be taken when using these chemicals. Safety goggles must be worn at all times. Students must be closely supervised at all times. In the event of Sodium Hydroxide solution being splashed in eyes, the eye must be flooded with water until a first-aider arrives. The student must be sent to hospital and the

eye continuously irrigated throughout the journey. In the event of Sulphuric Acid being splashed in eyes, the eye must be flooded for 10 minutes and medical attention sought.

### **Sheep Worrying**

- Sheep often graze at the Home Farm river site. Students must ensure that they do nothing that may worry the sheep and must follow all instructions given by the group leader. Extra care must be taken in the lambing season.
- It is important not to trap a sheep between the river and a large group of children as the sheep may panic and jump in the river.
- If students are working at both the 'girder' bridge and the ford they must notice if the sheep wish to cross the river and get themselves and all equipment well out of the way and keep still to allow them to do so. Sheep who feel trapped are more likely to jump in the river. If this happens, every effort must be made to rescue the sheep.
- No equipment, including dropped pencils, litter etc. may be left at the Home Farm fieldwork site.
- **The gate at Home Farm must be locked when leaving this site.**

### **Minibus travel**

- Children must follow all minibus rules ie. Seatbelts must be worn; do not distract the driver; no eating; do not remove seatbelt or attempt to get off until told to do so.
- Minibuses are regularly checked and maintained.

### **General health issues**

- Staff must carry a first aid kit and ensure that any medication such as asthma inhalers are easily accessible and not left in the minibus.
- Diabetics must have food with them.
- Holt Hall and school staff must be made aware of any allergies to nuts, insect bites and stings etc.

### **Emergency numbers**

- Ambulance, Police: 999
- Cromer Hospital: 01263 513571
- Holt Surgery: 01263 712461
- Holt Hall: 01263 713117

### **Telephone locations in an emergency**

- Holt Hall administration office

### **Letheringsett Ford and Home farm**

- Nearest house
- Main road Letheringsett (A148)
- If possible a mobile phone should be taken on this activity.