





Safety Information For Volunteers


Safety is of prime concern when working at a Conservancy site. Generally speaking, volunteer work at a site is not dangerous. However, the work, by its very nature, may present some hazards. Some common potential hazards and precautions are as follows:


 Be aware of others' safety as well as your own. Be alert to people working around you during a workday. Respect the working space of any person using equipment. Follow directions and act responsibly. If you have any ideas or suggestions, discuss them with the work party leader, but do not carry them out without permission.

 Volunteers should be careful and alert at all times. Any injuries, no matter how minor, should be reported immediately to the designated work party leader. First aid kits are provided, but practice of first aid should be left to qualified persons.

 Proper clothing should be worn to protect against sun, rain, heat, and cold. Sturdy leather shoes or work boots should be worn.

 It is recommended that volunteers check with their doctor about receiving a current tetanus inoculation, and inform the doctor that they may be in contact with various plants, soils and insects. Inform the work party leader of any health problems that might be adversely affected by your work.

 Potential animal hazards are few but do exist. Bees and wasps are present most of the year. Standing still until the insect flies away should minimize the risk of a sting except in the case of wasps in the ground. Stings and bites should be reported immediately to the work party leader. If you are allergic to bee or wasp stings, please let the work party leader know prior to the beginning of the work project. Please inform the work party leader if you are allergic to bee or wasp stings, prior to the beginning of the work project. Volunteers should not touch or pick up any wild animals they may encounter in the preserve. Any animals, especially those that appear sick or injured should be left alone and reported to the work party leader.

 Plants should not be eaten as many are poisonous. Edible plants can be difficult to identify. This includes leaves, fruits, mushrooms and any other plant types or parts. People should learn to recognize poison ivy and other poisonous plants such as poison sumac, and avoid them at all times.