

RA033 — Machinery, power tools and grounds maintenance

Naylor's Ark Soul Sanctuary · Risk assessment

Sanctuary CPH: 46/327/7111
Veterinary practice: 608 Equine & Farm Veterinary Surgeons · 01926 640 385
Partner / group: Staff, approved volunteers and work parties

Assessment date: 2026-08-10
Review date: 2027-08-10
Assessor: Liberty Naylor (Sanctuary Manager)

Activity assessed

Use of mowers, strimmers, power washers, hand tools, fencing equipment and site vehicles for grounds and maintenance work.

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Control measures in place	Residual risk
Contact with moving parts, blades or ejected debris	Operators, bystanders	Operators aged 18+, trained and signed off on TR-01 only. Pre-use checks and guards in place. Eye protection, gloves, ear defenders and boots worn. 15 m exclusion zone for strimming and mowing; work stops when visitors are nearby.	Medium
Vehicle and tractor movement on site	All site users	Speed limit 5 mph. No machinery movement while groups are on site unless banksman-controlled. Keys removed and handbrake applied when unattended. No passengers or riding on implements.	Medium
Fuel, oil and battery handling	Operators	Refuelling outdoors with the engine off and cool, no smoking. Fuel in labelled approved containers in the locked store. Spill kit available; spills cleared immediately.	Low
Electrical equipment and power washer use	Operators	RCD protection on all outdoor electrical use. PAT testing annually and visual check before each use. Power washer used with eye protection; never aimed at people or animals.	Low
Noise, vibration and fatigue	Operators	Ear defenders provided. Continuous strimming limited to 1 hour with breaks. Damaged or excessively vibrating tools withdrawn from use.	Low
Animal-related injury (bite, kick, knock, trample)	Visitors, volunteers, staff	Only pre-selected, temperament-assessed animals used for contact. Supervised at all times, minimum 1 trained handler per 8 participants. No entry to enclosures without a handler. Animals unsuitable for contact segregated and signed.	Low
Zoonotic infection (E. coli O157, cryptosporidium, salmonella)	All participants, especially under-5s, pregnant and immunosuppressed people	Hand-wash stations with hot water, soap and paper towels at every animal area. Supervised hand washing after contact and before eating. No eating, drinking or hand-to-mouth in animal areas. Signage per PHE/HSE AIS23.	Low
Slips, trips and falls on uneven, wet or muddy ground	All participants	Route walked and checked before arrival. Sturdy footwear required. Wet or churned areas closed off. Spillages and hazards cleared before the group moves through.	Low
Vehicles and machinery on site	All participants	No tractor or machinery movement while groups are on site unless banksman-controlled. Pedestrian routes marked; parking segregated from animal areas.	Low
Fire or emergency evacuation	All participants	Fire evacuation procedure FEP-01 briefed on arrival. Assembly point identified. Head-count register kept by group leader. Emergency vet and 999 contact details displayed.	Low

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Control measures in place	Residual risk
Adverse weather (heat, cold, wind, storms)	All participants	Weather checked morning of visit. Shaded and sheltered areas available; drinking water provided. Visit postponed for high wind, storms or extreme heat.	Low

Additional arrangements

- Emergency arrangements: first aider on site during all visits; first aid kit at the yard office; nearest A&E University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire; site address and what3words displayed at the assembly point.
- Group leaders retain duty of care for their own members and must supply ratios, medical and consent information before the visit.
- All visitors complete the visitor waiver and assumption of risk before activities. Volunteers must have completed induction, the safety quiz and SSOW-01.
- This assessment is read alongside HSP-01 Health and Safety Policy, FEP-01 Fire Evacuation Procedure, RA015 General visit and feeding, and MAP-01 Site map.
- Review: annually, after any incident or near miss, or when the activity, animals, group or site changes.

Signed (assessor): _____

Date: _____

Group leader briefed (signature): _____