

Common Activities, Hazards, and Precautions

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| <p>Will you be traveling internationally?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check Harvard travel policy • Review travel guidelines and travel checklists from Global Support Services (GSS) to learn about safety and security. https://www.globalsupport.harvard.edu/ |
| <p>Will you be visiting sites with hazardous terrain, climate, wildlife, zoonotic risks, poor sanitation, other environmental hazards, or remote sites with limited services (e.g., more than 30 minutes from emergency medical services)?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a safety and mitigation plan and review it with all participants • Ensure at least one participant completes first aid training • Carry a first aid kit |
| <p>Does your worksite lack reliable phone service?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a communication plan • Avoid working alone • Carry satellite communication phones |
| <p>Will you be visiting private properties, forests, or visiting homes?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress comfortably but professionally • Avoid working alone • Understand what hazards are currently present at the site and plan accordingly |
| <p>Possibility of Robbery (petty theft)?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not carry unnecessary valuables items. • Do not wear 'high-value clothing/jewelry. • Be aware of where you are going. • Do not travel alone at night or in high-risk areas. |
| <p>Will anyone be chartering boats, planes, or using other non-commercial means of transportation?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with Risk Management & Audits Services (RMAS) https://rmas.fad.harvard.edu/ regarding appropriate insurance and precautions |
| <p>Will anyone be operating Unmanned Aircraft Systems (drones)?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review guidelines for UAS flights on the RMAS website https://rmas.fad.harvard.edu Schedule a consultation to learn more about appropriate insurance for unmanned-aircraft-systems-drones |
| <p>Working outdoors with temperatures over 80 degrees F?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry enough water, take breaks in the shade • Carry shades or covers if the natural shade is unavailable • Maintain means of communication, awareness of worksite location, and ability to obtain Emergency Support |
| <p>Will participants be sleeping outside?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider establishing behavior agreement • Discuss expectations and rules before the trip • Travel with participants' roaster including their emergency contacts |
| <p>Working in dry vegetation/areas with high fire danger?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete fire extinguisher training • Carry a fire extinguisher, shovel, and bucket of sand in your vehicle • Seek advice from the university Environment Health and Safety (EH&S) |
| <p>Working in cold, possibly wet conditions?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share with all participants a suggested gear list including waterproof clothing, boots, layers for insulation, extra dry socks, a tarp, etc. |

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| <p>Does work involve: Digging soil more than 4 feet deep? Working at heights over 6 feet? Entering caves, vaults, mines, or other potential confined spaces? Handling or transporting hazardous materials or samples? Use of powered tools or equipment? Working in loud noise? Snowmobiles? clinical work or handling of biological specimens?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry extra blankets or sleeping bag in your vehicle for emergencies • Contact EH&S for appropriate hazard assessment, training, and PPE selection • If medical clearance or vaccinations are required, schedule your appointment with Occupational Health at least 6-8 weeks prior to travel (e.g. for use of respirators, working in loud noise, handling bats or other hazardous wildlife) |
| <p>Will anyone be handling/trapping wildlife?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get necessary approvals from Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) https://research.fas.harvard.edu/iacuc |
| <p>Will anyone be driving?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review driving guidelines on the GSS website https://www.globalsupport.harvard.edu/travel/advice/remote-road-travel • If you need to drive, ensure that you possess a valid driving license and that you understand and observe the rules of the road. • Ensure regular breaks in the journey. • Avoid traveling in extreme weather. • Avoid traveling at night. • Ensure driver respects road conditions and speed limits. • If traveling by public transport do not travel on overcrowded vehicles/those in a poor mechanical state. • Know where you are going and how to get there • If you are not familiar with the environment, hire a local driver • Motorcycle drivers and riders should wear helmets at all times. • If you're thinking about driving abroad, review the State Department's advice on road safety, auto insurance, and international driving permits. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/driving-and-road-safety.html |
| <p>Serious Disease/ Illness</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep good personal hygiene. • Ensure that your vaccinations are up to date. • Take anti-malarial drugs if in a malaria zone. • If you get sick, seek immediate medical evaluation. If you are traveling internationally, ISOS medical team provides access to 24/7 emergency medical, mental health, security, and evacuation support. Before your trip, download the SOS app: app.internationalsos.com • Know where good quality local medical facilities can be found. • Visit https://www.cdc.gov/diseasesconditions/az/1.html |
| <p>Handling Animal Blood, Tissue, or Fluids</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take appropriate PPE |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands clean • Avoid bites and scratches • Visit https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/diseases/index.html |
| Working in an area with Hazardous Insects, Hazardous Plants, Hazardous Wildlife | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in recognition and avoidance • Learn avoidance techniques • Keep living areas and work areas clean—don't leave food out |
| Working with high altitude | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training • Acclimation • Slow rate of ascent |
| Hiking | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiking safety/emergency plan • Buddy system • Location-specific training |
| Snakes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in recognition and avoidance • Caution around likely snake habitats • Wear boots, long pants, and gloves when working outdoors |
| Sun Exposure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use shade • Loose clothing to protect skin • Wear a hat • Sunscreen |
| Working in the Dark | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear reflective clothing • Carry generator lights |
| Confined Spaces | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confined space training • Use authorized entrant • Chest or body harness training |
| Hight and climbing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on fall hazards |
| Noise Exposure Above 85 dBA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing protection • Use noise barriers • Limit time in hazardous noise |