



Survey Safety Guidance

We want you to enjoy participating in the Plant Survey and for every field visit to be trouble-free. A few simple precautions make a world of difference in this respect, both preventing accidents and aiding you and others if things do go wrong.

We have tried to ensure that dangerous areas / habitats are excluded from the survey. However, **if you consider your survey square to be dangerous**, for whatever reason, **do not attempt the survey but contact us to arrange a safe alternative.**

More detailed guidance on health and safety when volunteering can be downloaded from our website at:

www.plantlife.org.uk/volunteer/healthandsafety

Alternatively, please request a paper copy. We strongly advise you to read this guidance.

When visiting your site, please respect the landowner's wishes:

- Only enter private land with permission to do so - otherwise keep to public footpaths and rights of way
- Ideally leave pets at home; always keep dogs under close control
- Leave gates as you find them
- Leave no litter
- Respect farm animals

There are always some risks associated with enjoying the outdoors. By completing the checklist overleaf you will help ensure your safety. Please take a moment to do this before each visit to your survey square.

Remember, more detailed guidance is available on request, as are further copies of this card. Go to our website, email enquireis@plantlife.org.uk or phone 01722 342 730

You are responsible for your own health and safety whilst conducting the Survey. Please read all the safety guidance available. If you think there are other potential risks about which we should inform volunteer survey participants, please let us know.

Continued overleaf/...

CHECKLIST for YOUR SAFETY

Only undertake the survey if you are feeling fit and well enough to do so. Never arrange to meet strangers alone in isolated situations.

1. **Map of survey square, and access to it, appear safe**
2. **Weather forecast** is satisfactory on day of survey
3. **Friend/family is accompanying me** (much safer than working alone) **OR**
Friend/family (not participating) know where I am going, my expected time of return, and what they should do if I fail to return
4. **Outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear suitable to the weather** conditions and terrain.
5. **Waterproof rucksack** with additional items - e.g. water-proofs, sun block
6. **Charged mobile phone**
7. **Large scale map** and, if available, a compass and a handheld GPS unit
8. **Sufficient food and drink**
9. **Valuables not left on show in your car**
10. **I have read Plantlife's more detailed health and safety guidance** (online or request a paper copy)

Road verges – a special note:

If your allocated map square means you need to cross or survey the edge of a road, please take extra care. In particular:

- Do not attempt to access or survey the sides of motorways or busy roads. Ask us for an alternative map square.
- For other roads, and only if you feel you can survey the road verge safely, wear highly visible clothing and only survey in daylight and good weather. Where possible, take someone with you to help.

You are responsible for your own health and safety whilst carrying out the survey. You take part in the survey entirely at your own risk. Plantlife International does not accept any liability or responsibility for the well-being of survey participants. Similarly, Plantlife International does not accept any liability or responsibility for damage to, or loss of, personal property. Under 18s should be accompanied by an adult.