

Ramblers Wellbeing Walks | Risk Assessment



Every walk is different, so complete a risk assessment for each venue your group offers to help you plan and make a note of the steps you are taking to keep walkers safe. Risk assessments should be stored for three years and be kept by the coordinator.

Have a great walk!

Ramblers Wellbeing Walks Partner: Step Out Sheffield	Name of walk: Ecclesall Woods Wellbeing Walk
Risk Assessment completed (date): 22/07/2026	Recce completed (date): 07/07/2026

Hazards Make a note of any hazards to walkers or others on your route	Your notes	Precautions Tick the boxes that apply and add any others – you don't need to tick every box.	✓
Weather Is there any danger of extreme temperatures, heavy rainfall or other severe weather during the walk?		In extreme weather conditions, or if Amber or Red Met Office Severe Weather Warnings are in place, walk to be cancelled.	✓
		Advise walkers to bring suitable clothing and items for the conditions	✓
		Planned route to be changed on the day to avoid slippery surfaces, blazing sun, or areas exposed to strong wind.	✓
		Other/Detail:	

Traffic Do you need to cross or walk along a road? Are there any level crossings?	Abbey Lane is a busy road with a speed limit of 40mph. The only crossing point is down towards the Beauchief crossing and accessing it on foot requires walking on the road or on a muddy verge for 50m or so.	Check for suitable crossing places on the recce	✓
		Communicate clearly with the group on the day	✓
		Walkers to be gathered together as a single group where possible to cross roads	✓
		Pedestrian crossings or other safe crossings to be used.	✓
		Other/Detail: Hi-Viz jackets to be worn to increase visibility of group	✓
Path surface and obstacles Are there hazards such as slippery paths, loose rocks, stiles, fallen trees, steep drops?		Check for hazards on the recce and adapt the route if needed	✓
		Provide clear information to walkers beforehand	✓
		Advise walkers to bring suitable footwear for the conditions	✓
		Where possible routes to be planned so they avoid uneven surfaces	✓
		Other/Detail:	
Communications Is there a chance you could get lost, lose touch with walkers, lose visibility or phone signal?	There isn't a phone signal at many places within the woods. Sometimes using an old-fashioned whistle works best.	Walk Leaders to share mobile phone numbers	✓
		Other/Detail: If an accident occurs for which medical assistance is required please use the What 3 words app. This will go straight through to mountain rescue. Ambulances can't access the woodland paths but the land rovers used by Mountain rescue teams can.	

Slips, Trips, Slopes, and Inclines Add any other hazards on your walk here		Leaders to be prepared to assist walkers in these areas	✓
		Other/Detail: Hazards include tree roots, uneven ground, overhanging branches, slippery leaves and tree seeds underfoot. Risks to be mentioned in the walker's briefing immediately before the walk	
Illness, Accident, or Falls	All accidents to be reported to Sue Lee on 07905239699 or sue_lee@blueyonder.co.uk	All walkers to be encouraged to carry I.C.E. cards	✓
		Injured party to be taken back to start point, or emergency services to be called via the What Three Words app.	✓
Dogs, Cyclists, Horses, Motorcycles, Overhanging Vegetation, Animal Excrement	An increasing number of people own dogs, and some do not have control of their animals leading to risk of being knocked down by one.	The risk of encountering an out-of-control dog during the walk to be mentioned in the walker's briefing immediately before the start. Once on the walk leaders to shout warnings ahead or behind as appropriate	✓
Steep Inclines		Walkers to be reminded of inclines at the start of the walk, advised to walk at a pace that is comfortable to them, and ask for rests if required	✓
Walkers Getting Lost		Leaders wear hi-visibility vests and spread themselves amongst the group. At the start of the walk one leader to ensure that walkers know who the nominated leader and back marker are, and to remind walkers not to walk in front of the leader or behind the backmarker.	✓

If you have any questions about **Ramblers Wellbeing Walks**, please get in touch: volunteersupport@ramblers.zendesk.com