



Health and Safety of the volunteers during the programme

The Health and Safety aspects of each of our projects are assessed in detail by our trained volunteer leaders and staff. The team leaders provide relevant safety information during the programme, as well as during the training week on the safe use of equipment and tools. All participants are responsible for adhering to all the procedures that are demonstrated at any time.



The Environment Agency does its utmost to ensure that all projects operate within strict health and safety guidelines. However, if you are uneasy with any aspect of health and safety on the project, please talk to the team leader or to the coordinator responsible for the project.

- It is the volunteer's responsibility to ensure that the tetanus inoculation is up-to-date and to notify the coordinator of the programme or the team leader about any relevant medical conditions, allergies and prior injuries. This information will be treated as confidential.
- Remember to bring sufficient supplies of any prescribed medication to last the duration of the placement. In accordance with our health and safety policy, volunteers must administer medication such as pain killers themselves, so they should bring their own supplies.
- It is the participant's responsibility to organise its own travel insurance for the duration of the placement unless the travel insurance is included in insurance provided by their sending organisation (BTCV and Working Abroad provide insurance cover for their volunteers).
- The Environment Agency is following any regulations implemented by the Icelandic government and may add stricter hygiene rules. The volunteers must follow them strictly (i.e. COVID regulations).



European Health insurance card

If you are a European citizen, it is very important that you bring a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) with you in order to pay reduced costs for any necessary medical treatment during your visit (Iceland is within the European Economic Area) [EHIC information from the EU](#).

At the beginning of the placement, the volunteers will take part to a training week in which they will learn how to use the different tools. It is mandatory to follow this training week in which a "tool talk" will provide information on how to use the tools to work but also how to safely transport them to the work site.

During the placement, the team leader is the only one able to assess if a tool is not usable. If the volunteers have any doubt on a tool, they must report it immediately to the team leader to avoid any accident. The team leader will then report any issues to the coordinators.

Although there is relatively little crime in Iceland, we strongly recommend that you always keep your valuable belongings with you. Valuables cannot be secured on the campsites when left unattended in the tents.