

SOUTH VANCOUVER ISLAND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY(svims)

MUSHROOM FORAY POLICY August 19th 2019

(And other outdoor activities)

Upon joining Svims, members will sign a Svims waiver which will be witnessed and filed by the membership secretary or designate. To participate in a Svims foray it is necessary for the member to be aware of and consent to the following:

- 1. The need to follow the rules as outlined below on pages 1 and 2.**
- 2. There are inherent risks to any foray such as getting lost, injured, and attacked by an animal as well as health risks on allergen and insect vector exposures.**
- 3. That the member assumes the unavoidable risks in return for the foray experience and agrees not to hold Svims responsible for any unfavourable outcomes.**
- 4. Any foray attendee must be a paid up member in good standing on the day prior to the foray. No memberships will be sold on the day of the foray. Out of town guest speakers are considered signed up members but must follow and be aware of the Svims foray policy and procedures.**
- 5. Any family Svims member, who a minor on a foray, is the sole responsibility of the attending legal guardian, who also a member.**
- 6. Mushroom consumption during a foray is strongly discouraged. Any subsequent consumption of gathered fungi is the sole responsibility of that member.**
- 7. The only dogs allowed on a foray are service and truffle dogs.**

Foray Procedure:

This to be monitored by the Foray lead at the beginning of each foray

1. There will be a sign in and out form which each attendee or family designate needs to complete and which lists the following:

A. The participant, who is a member, must indicate awareness of the Svims foray policy and waivers.

B. A sign in name, signature and a cellular phone number. Any legal family guardian must sign in for the minor for whom that guardian responsible.

C. The foray leader will do a count of the number of participants.

E. At the end of a foray or if the need arises, earlier, all participants must sign out. A minor has to be signed out by the legal guardian. Any participant leaving prior to the end of a foray must notify the foray leader and sign out.

F. The foray leader will, prior to the start of the foray, provide a reassembly time and place. If able the foray leader will provide a contact cell phone number to the participants but, use of which understandably will be limited by reception constraints.

G. At the end of a foray, the sign out numbers must match the sign in numbers at the reassembly time. If not the foray leader will try to contact the missing participant, and if unable to be reached, then after an additional half hour or earlier at the discretion of the lead, a rescue protocol will be initiated. The participant will be assumed lost or injured and the emergency services alerted. Therefore, the responsibility for signing out is solely that of the participant who must be fully aware of the consequences of not doing so.

H. It is a strong recommendation that all participants be aware of:

1. Of map and compass use. Preload any area maps in your digital devices.

2. A whistle protocol.

3. The use of off grid navigation and contact aids as well as how to initiate an emergency locator.

4. Backup power sources for recharging any digital devices. This could be critical and an essential life line.

Foray lead check list

- A. Awareness of the above foray policy and procedures.**
- B. Have an active membership list which should have an emergency contact number of the participant.**
- C. List of board members and their contact numbers.**
- D. All necessary forms and documents are in the foray pack.**

At the Foray:

- 1. Have the Svims foray sign in and out form for all participants. Confirm that all the participants are active members and are aware of the Svims foray policy and procedures.**
- 2. Provide an end of foray reassembly time and place and if possible a GPS coordinate.**
- 3. Provide the lead or designate a cell phone contact number, being aware of reception limitations**
- 4. Ensure a match between the numbers signing in and out. If there is a mismatch then attempt to contact the person(s) that have not signed out at the designated reassembly time.**
- 5. Wait a reasonable amount of time and then initiate a rescue protocol with notification of law enforcement and rescue agencies through a 911 call. If reception limits the ability to make any contacts including emergency, then the leader will appoint a foray assistant to leave the site and proceed to a point where emergency contacts able to be made.**

At the foray lead`s discretion this can be initiated immediately if this felt necessary, or of course in an emergency at any time.

7. The leader or designate:

- Does not leave the foray reassembly site till all participants have signed out. Your own safety and that of the other foray participants however, essential at all times.**
- If a rescue in progress, remain at the scene unless requested to leave by the rescue team. If so, then exchange contact numbers for updates on the rescue.**
- Notify and update an executive board member of the situation.**