



Risk Management Checklist

for Program, Activity or Event Planning

Event: _____ Date: _____

General Risk Management Considerations

- The activity/event supports the UMaine Cooperative Extension mission.
- The schedule of events and emergency contact information for the activity/event have been communicated to appropriate individuals.
- When needed, orientation for volunteers, youth participants and/or parents has been scheduled before the event.
- Risks inherent with the event have been identified, and risk management strategies have been developed. Check with extension staff to determine if an Assumption of Risk form is needed.
- Appropriate forms completed (e.g., Code of Conduct and Behavior Guidelines, Parental Permission/Informed Consent, Health Form, Photo Release Form, Assumption of Risk Form, etc.)
- UMaine Cooperative Extension staff member has approved the activity/event.
- Provide for and require use of protective equipment if appropriate.
- A specific emergency plan should be in place and should include the following:
 - o warning method
 - o what actions will take place
 - o how will participants be accounted for to ensure everyone is safe
 - o how emergency services will be summoned and by whom
 - o who, if anyone is allowed to perform first aid
 - o Contact information for lead staff and volunteers for this event/program has been shared with participants/parents/staff etc.

When Youth are Involved

- At no time during an Extension youth program may a paid staff member or volunteer be alone with a single youth where others cannot observe them.
- Paid or volunteer staff should never leave a youth unsupervised.
- Public restroom supervision: Staff or volunteer will make sure suspicious or unknown individuals do not occupy the restroom before allowing children to use the

facilities. No child should enter a public restroom alone. Always send children in pairs.

- Adequate number of volunteers secured to chaperone the event. 1:10 ratio of adults to youth, 1:6 ratio adults to Cloverbuds (youth ages 5-8).
- Do not release youth to anyone other than the authorized parent or guardian, or other adults designated in writing by the parent/guardian.
- Age-appropriate activities and assignments have been identified for this event.
- Provide participants and parents/guardians with activity itinerary and emergency phone numbers, addresses, etc.
- If available, review the event contingency plan for disaster.

First Aid

- At least one adult present has current first aid and CPR certification.
- A properly equipped first aid kit and personal barriers are available.
- Procedures have been identified and facilities are available to summon emergency assistance (e.g., working telephone, list of emergency numbers).

Severe Weather

- An adult is designated to coordinate severe weather decisions.
- A method is in place to monitor weather watches and warnings.
- Severe weather shelters have been identified and are available.
- A plan is in place to cancel and/or suspend the event, if necessary.

Transportation

- Drivers are properly licensed, insured and are at least 21 years of age.
- Vehicles/drivers are adequately insured.
- Safety belts are used for the driver and all passengers.

Facilities

- Exits are clear, and fire safety equipment has been identified and is usable.
- Snow and ice removal have been planned, if needed.
- The event facility meets accessibility requirements, or accommodations have been made for participants with disabilities.
- Drinking water and shelter from the elements are available.
- Appropriate restroom facilities are available.
- Extension cords and electrical equipment have been checked for safe use.
- Equipment and tools for the event have been secured, checked for safety measures, and instructions provided.

Food Safety

- Everyone involved in the food-related activity is appropriately guided in safe food handling practices.
- Necessary supplies are available.

- Personal cleanliness is maintained.
- Utensils, food containers and surface areas are kept clean.
- Food is completely cooked.
- Food is maintained at a safe temperature.
- Food is used within a safe length of time.
- Event-specific food safety requirements and regulations have been checked/implemented.

Insurance

- Submit Liability Insurance Certificate Request Form (if needed)
- Cooperating organizations have liability insurance. (if needed)
 - Additional accident insurance has been purchased for a 4-H event. (if needed)