



KEEPERS OF THE WILD

SAFETY POLICIES & RISK MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

In addition to the (Release of Liability Waiver, and Assumption of Risk Agreement) our company makes this document outlining Safety Policies & Risk Management Practices for our participants. This document is essentially a list of "safety guidelines" & or "rules" for our guests to follow to keep people safe while also managing our risks of injury or loss.

PLEASE REVIEW AND SIGN THE AGREEMENT

By signing this document you acknowledge that you have read through it and understood what the safety policies are. This is important for all participants to understand as the overall security and safety of the event is partly in the hands of the participants themselves. Knowing your responsibility regarding safety & risk management while out with us in the field. SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT & all other participants as well as "KEEPERS OF THE WILD" company is relying on your compliance for smooth and safe touring operations.

SAFETY POLICIES & RISK MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

1. Participant(s) must be of good mental and physical health to perform the activities you are signing up for. It takes away from the other participant's experience if someone holds up the group or if someone poses safety concerns due to mental health behaviors. Also, if you have an existing physical condition you are experiencing it may get worse by participating in the activities of our event(s). If this is a concern of yours, please consult your physician to make sure your participation in a given event won't cause further damage to your health or aggravate a current condition. Also, if you are unsure whether or not you can physically handle the event, consult your physician. (don't take chances with your health) Also, conversations with our staff concerning the physical rigors of a particular event BEFORE sign-up might provide the information to make an appropriate decision OR dispell/confirm ANY concerns.

2. Participant(s) must be medically fit to attend and perform the activities being signed up for and not to pose health risks to other participants. ALL MEDICAL CONDITIONS and OR MEDICATION NEEDS MUST BE DISCLOSED TO OUR STAFF PRIOR TO THE EVENT TAKING PLACE. This information is kept confidential; however, it is important for our staff guides to know your medical conditions and or medications in the event a situation arises with your health. This information would be crucial to know for first aid response and or to pass on to first responders.
3. Participants must also advise staff ahead of time of serious allergies (ex: foods, bee stings etc..) also if you carry an epi-pen, puffers, nitro or anything of this nature... we must know you have them and where you will be carrying them in case of emergency we can help assist you. We cannot perform that delegated medical act but we can assist and or advise first responders of your situation if something should happen.
4. We do not allow pets of any kind on our events.
5. NO FIREARMS, NO BOW or NO CROSSBOW or NO WEAPONS ALLOWED unless on a guided hunt excursion.
6. IF Firearms are being used they must be authorized, legal, licensed and complying with all laws as well as the user must be licensed and qualified. They must comply with all hunting, firearm and other related regulations under Ontario and Canadian Federal law. Participants are required to adhere to standardized/accepted and safe firearms handling practices at ALL times during event where firearms are involved.
7. NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL allowed for use during our events for INSURANCE PURPOSES.
8. You must pack accordingly for your excursion. (**dress appropriately for the weather conditions as well as weather conditions that could develop**) See our attached list for clothing guidelines as well as basic equipment requirements. (LIST ATTACHED AT THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT)
9. SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT IN ALL OUR OPERATIONS, EVENTS and COURSES...IF you see something that isn't safe or something that could pose a security/ safety issue, you MUST report it to our guides and/ or staff immediately so it can be taken care of/ or actions taken to secure all other participants. This is important to us as we are constantly looking to improve our services and the safety/security of our participants.
10. IF you have any questions or concerns about any of the activities it is up to you to approach the guides or staff and ask. Make your concerns known so that we can help or assist you and improve our services. Remember: there are NO stupid questions..."you don't know what you don't know!"
11. ALL FIRST AID SITUATIONS: no matter how small must be brought to the attention of staff or guides. Minor illnesses or injuries CAN develop into a major health crisis in the wild and our

staff NEEDS TO BE MADE AWARE in order to monitor and be able to respond appropriately.

- 12.** First Aid response is dealt with by staff or guides, however participants may be asked to assist in a given situation. Due to being in the wilderness, if a serious injury or situation arises, participants may be asked to assist in evacuating a fellow participant. In serious situations, 911 services will be called and dispatched and/ or driven to the hospital by a staff member or even another member of the group.
- 13.** YOU MUST STAY WITH THE GROUP as staff and the guides are running a group tour or course and need to account for all persons at all times. If someone disappears it creates a problem for the staff or instructors as well as for the other participants. Please don't be that person and respect the others and always stay within visual sight or earshot of the group. If you will be going a little further you must go paired up with another person and advise the group and seek approval from staff. Activities may need to stop in order to locate someone or to activate search and rescue protocols should someone become separated from the group. We don't want to have to deal with these kinds of scenarios nor do we want to take away from the other participant's experience and enjoyment so please follow the rules. They are in place for a reason and for smooth operation of our activities. Expect to assist in relaying "head counts" when on the move in the wilderness especially during night activities. When we ask to "send up the count", the last person in the line turns to the next person ahead of them and touches them gently on the shoulder and says: "ONE"...that person repeats "ONE" and then turns to the next person ahead of them and while gently touching that person says "TWO" and so on so forth... till it hits the leader at the front of the line. This gives the leader a count of the line to ensure EVERYONE is accounted for...this system is a military tested and proven method which we have chosen to adopt.
- 14.** Stay in pairs when working/ wandering nearby or going to the washroom. The BUDDY SYSTEM works as there is always someone who knows where someone else is. IF for whatever reason you have become separated from the group, stay where you are and DON'T WANDER ANY FURTHER! Call out for help, use a cell phone to contact the group "if service is available", attempt to call out or make noise so others from the group may hear you. DONT PANIC STAY CALM. Remember: you should always be within earshot or line of vision from the group therefore if you stop when you realize this is not the case, you should not be far from the group when they start looking for you.
- 15.** Take direction from staff and guides. They are easy going people but if they are giving directions or telling you something, it is for good reason. Following the leaders of the event is important for good group management.
- 16.** Respect others & be polite. NO aggressive or harassing behavior. NO racism or sexism. These kinds of things will NOT be tolerated. In the event a problem should arise, you will be warned and should it persist, you WILL be asked (and obligated) to leave the event and WILL NOT be compensated in any way.

17. ALL valuables are YOUR responsibility. Secure money, valuables, cell phones, etc..... on your person OR in a safe place IN YOUR EQUIPMENT. Our company assumes ABSOLUTELY NO LIABILITY for your property and /or valuables.
18. NO FOOD is to be stored in the shelters, tents or sleeping quarters (from May-November) as they attract wildlife and predators. Food is to be kept in the food storage areas.
19. No "screwing around" or "play fighting" as it may lead to injury or damage of property. We also must consider that being in the outback if someone gets hurt we are not close to medical facilities therefore we MUST treat our physical safety with care to avoid injuries.
20. When using knives, machetes, axes, saw and other tools you MUST USE EXTREME CARE...Use only proper and safe forms of operation. When using knives, always cut away from yourself... never towards! Use knives only for work purposes and don't take chances as it may result in cuts or extreme injury. Axes are very dangerous therefore they need to be handled with care and consideration taken towards others that may be working or walking around you so you do not hit them accidentally. Legs must be spread apart/ check your surroundings/ swing precisely AND with care! (the same goes for machetes and saws) ALSO if you are cutting down trees, you MUST always consider the safety of others. Consider where trees and debris will or may fall: consider if a tree falls in an unwanted direction/ look at the height of it before you cut ...as anyone within that length of where the tree could fall, is within the danger range. IF you DO NOT know how to properly use any of these tools simply ask for guidance from one of our guides or staff and they will gladly teach you the proper techniques of use. ALSO be sure to wear proper safety equipment such as safety glasses, gloves, boots.
21. **Follow in the steps and the lead of the guides:** when out walking cross country through the bush or hiking on trails, always keep note of where the guide is walking and stepping while avoiding loose rocks, slippery surfaces etc..... (the guide is usually placing his footing in the best places he sees fit) If everyone is following in line and "mirroring" the others ahead of them, they should all be following in the steps of the guide. In the event that the spots on the terrain should change due to people walking on them, then use your sound judgement and take a safer step. Although this works in the perfect world, this MAY NOT ALWAYS workout therefore you should always be conscious and assess your steps and the obstacles around you at all times. Watch your footing and use care. Watch for branches swinging back from the person in front of you or for protruding branches that could poke you in the eye or face. TAKE YOUR TIME and BE SAFE...Better that everyone travels with care and we all arrive without injury. IF the guide indicates an obstacle or something to take note of, he will motion the person behind him and they will pass on that information down the line. The next person and so on will all replicate the same motion they understood and pass it along ... so on and so forth all the way down the line.

- 22.** Water hazards can come in different forms...fast moving currents in rivers, thin ice in certain places throughout the winter season, frigid cold water and even water with poor visibility concealing other hazards underneath the surface like rocks/ logs or even wildlife. These can present many scenarios when out as part of a group and participating in activities therefore we have in place as a policy that we stay clear of all waterways unless guided by staff or guides. NOBODY will be going into the water or near possible water hazards UNLESS with the group and accompanied with the guides. As well, if the group is swimming, we DO NOT want any "horse play" or "play fighting" as this could cause someone to drown or cause injury. We also expect when swimming, people WILL stay with the group and NOT wander off too far away to prevent a possible problem. Participants MUST be mindful that the staff and guides are keeping an eye out for ALL people at the event therefore the more spread out people become, the harder it is to monitor for possible issues. This policy is meant to keep the group dynamics and participants safe and not meant to be childish rules or a challenge to your personal abilities.
- 23. Your personal well-being and health is partly your responsibility.** We mean this in the way that you must keep yourself hydrated by drinking water regularly especially in warm and/ or strenuous conditions. Sunscreens are recommended to protect from sunburns while also covering up and wearing a hat can prevent heat stroke ... It is up to you to drink and/or eat when you require it to avoid possibly fainting and preventing cramps, etc. otherwise this would cause group activities to cease in order to care for your situation. As a result, this would also tie up limited staff and resources. If you fall faint and pass out or get cramps etc..... this will affect the group as the activities end up stopping to care for your situation. This ties up limited staff and resources.
- 24.** It is your option to dress as you wish but please don't become a burden to the group by not dressing properly. Dress in layers and dress according to the weather conditions. Always wear proper foot wear and always bring a spare pair of socks. Bringing a rain jacket is always a good practice even if it doesn't look like it is going to rain. Moisture is the key reason people get cold as it speeds up the cooling process especially when combined with wind. Even in "spring, summer or fall conditions", you can experience hypothermia. Rain gear will usually reduce the wind affect as well as keep you dry.
(See attached equipment and clothing list for guidance)
- 25.** Sleeping accommodations fluctuate depending on the event or course being taken. Depending on events, participants may or may not be required to provide their own tent or shelter while other events will have you MAKE your own shelter and select who you pair up with in a team(s) or group(s). Sometimes we host large "prospector type tents" which house up to 8-10 people each. Arrangements are usually figured out once in the field. Sometimes we can separate male and female depending on what works best at the time. (sometimes we use multiple regular small tents in order to accommodate everyone. Should there be any special request(s) or concern(s), please don't hesitate to ask us.

- 26.** Weather hazards or conditions will dictate if we continue on an excursion or if we will adjust our plans. We do consider the weather and listen to the weather forecasts prior to each event however as we all know the weather reports aren't always correct. For safety reasons sometimes events must be postponed or re-scheduled. In the event of a significant weather occurrence developing while out on an activity/excursion, we will seek the appropriate refuge or safety. Safety is our priority. Just because it is raining or storming DOESN'T AUTOMATICALLY cause us to shut down an event. We operate RAIN or SHINE and activities/ events are still always a fun adventure.
- 27. Events that involve youth:** MUST ALWAYS SIGN ADDITIONAL WAIVERS and MUST ALWAYS be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Our youth camps (6-11 yrs) are events that are best involved with parents onsite or in the general vicinity. This also creates a better family atmosphere, bonding and group cohesion. It is also a great time for adults to network with other adults while the youth participate in events and teachings. Parents are required to help manage their youth if necessary... if any needs should arise for the youth, usually the parent will be required for this.
- 28.** Emergency response during our events and activities will always be dictated by the staff and guides as well as the situation itself. If we have a major injury or occurrence, our procedure is to gather the group and secure everyone so as to not have additional situations transpire. The event remains stopped until the situation is resolved, until medical evacuations or first aid is rendered then we are o.k. to resume our activities. If this happens, it is out of our control and we apologize for stopping the event. Depending how significant the disturbance was during our activities, we may entertain refunds or partial refunds up to 50% however this would only be dictated by the situation/circumstances. (losses incurred by the Company would also be considered) We want to maintain happy customers and positive customer experiences...these types of occurrences are rare and hopefully never happen.
- 29.** Photos and videos: WE DO NOT ALLOW DRONES ON OUR EVENTS... We also ask that NO videos or audio recordings be taken during our teaching events or course materials. (for obvious reasons) Photos are allowed and if someone has an issue(s) with video or photos being taken, they must advise staff and/or the other participants what IS o.k. and was IS NOT o.k. with you. (communication is the best practice) Most people that come out on events are receptive and don't mind being part of photos and/or videos of themselves while participating in activities.
- 30.** HAVE FUN AND ENJOY THE ADVENTURES...These policies are meant as disclaimers and general information "for guests to know" prior to the events taking place so that people know what types of behavior and activities are acceptable and not; and what is expected from them as participants. Most people attending events are adults and as long as good common sense is used, things should run just fine. Rules like this are usually laid out for the "not so common sense" individual(s) that need to have things laid out in writing. If these policies and rules are

NOT being followed, you WILL BE warned. If a person chooses to NOT adhere to direction, you may be asked to leave the event and/ or activities without compensation or additional warnings. We are very easy going people here at "Keepers of the Wild"... most participants partaking in events are respectful and very reasonable individuals. Our experience has shown us that issues are rarely a problem however they CAN occur on OCCASION. This warning is for that 1% that may cause issues. ON THAT NOTE, TIE UP YOUR BOOTS AND GRAB YOUR GEAR.....IT'S TIME FOR GOODTIMES AND ADVENTURES!

WE AT "KEEPERS OF THE WILD" AND STAFF MEMBERS PRIDE OURSELVES ON CONTINUALLY STRIVING TO CREATE POSITIVE EXPERIENCES FOR ALL OF OUR PARTICIPANTS...YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND FEEDBACK (NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE) ARE NOT ONLY ENCOURAGED BUT ARE MOST APPRECIATED TO FURTHER HELP "KEEPERS OF THE WILD" CONTINUE TO LEARN AND IMPROVE THE SERVICE WE HAPPILY PROVIDE...

THANK YOU FOR GIVING "KEEPERS OF THE WILD" THE OPPORTUNITY AND PRIVILEGE TO SERVE YOU...WE TRUST THAT YOU WILL BE VERY PLEASED AND HOPE THAT YOU WILL JOIN US AGAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE!