



Field Research Health & Safety

Assess Potential Hazards

Fieldwork activities such as those involving isolated or remote locations, extreme weather, hazardous terrain, or lack of ready access to emergency services can expose participants to significant risks to their health and/or safety.

Minimize health and safety risks by conducting an assessment in advance of fieldwork activities. Environmental Health and Safety and University Health Services staff may be able to assist you with developing a plan to manage risks in the following situations.

→ Will you be visiting sites with:

- hazardous terrain
- wildlife and zoonotic risks
- environmental hazards or remote sites with limited services (more than 30 minutes from emergency medical services)?

→ Does your worksite lack reliable phone service?

→ Does the research involve:

- Excavating soil more than 4 feet deep?
- Working at heights over 6 feet?
- Entering caves, vaults, mines or other potential confined spaces?
- Work on a construction site, including abandoned homes?
- Potential exposure to asbestos or lead?
- Handling or transporting hazardous chemicals
- Collection of biological samples that pose a risk of zoonotic disease transmission?
- Use of powered tools or equipment
- ATVs?
- Snowmobiles?
- Clinical work or handling of clinical specimens?

→ Will anyone be operating Unmanned Aircraft Systems?

→ Will anyone be boating?

→ Will anyone be diving?