CAMPING IN GREENFIELD SITES

Points to remember:

- **E-coli contamination from sheep faeces / water puddles**
  - Keep away from land that has been grazed on until about 4 weeks prior to camp
  - Check water supply history with landowner (see below)
  - Contamination can be spread by footwear
  - Remove sheep faeces from immediate living area at least
  - Heavy rain can cause cross contamination with water supply
  - **Strict Personal Hygiene**
    - Wash with anti-bacterial soap after toilet visits, before cooking and eating

- **Water - Check its quality history with landowner.**
  - If in doubt boil all water
  - Use water filtering equipment / tablets if water brackish
  - Place water point where spillage will easily drain away

- **Toilets - if none available. Provide anti-bacterial washing facilities nearby.**
  - Elsen type toilets - use in toilet tents
    - Empty regularly in suitable foul system or in deep pit. Sufficient soil to cover after use.
    - Watch prevailing wind when siting
  - Urinal pits & Squat pits in canvas surround - no roof required
    - Dig at least 1/2 metre deep and leave soil nearby
    - Stones in urinal pits to help draining - soil to cover faeces after every use
    - Watch prevailing wind when siting - downwind but not too far
    - Mark pit site as unusable for future campers. Mark with large X on floor.

- **Washing Area**
  - Site between toilets and tents

- **Cooking fires / Campfires**
  - Position a good distance from tented area, and check prevailing winds.
    - Guide to wind direction; look at which way trees lean or leaves collect by hedges.
    - The prevailing wind in UK is mainly south-west & north-east
    - Dining shelter close to kitchen so food will not get cold, but away from fire and smoke
    - Rope off chopping area close to wood pile
    - Wood pile not too close to fires

- **1st Aid Tents - A must, especially for a long camp.**
  - Pitch 1st Aid tent centrally in the campsite and accessible to all + 1st Aid Kit

- **Site Boundary & Fire Marshalling area**
  - Ensure everyone is made aware of site boundaries which first check with landowner
  - Inform campers of fire marshalling area - provide fire buckets strategically
    - Fire buckets by cooking fires, by campfire, and central to tentage

A 15th Cheltenham (SHURDINGTON) Resource - 2004
Campsite

- Pitch tents with doors away from prevailing wind
- Avoid pitching close to or under trees. Trees attract lightning, leaves drip after rain stops
- Pitch on raised ground if dips are apparent in field. Dips retain water
- Allow ample space between tents
- If mixed camp, pitch male and female tents either side of Leader tents

Emergencies

- Make note, and advise others, of the nearest telephone, the nearest doctor, and the local hospital.
- Ensure at least one car is parked near enough to site for emergencies
- Plan ahead for emergencies - who takes over if Camp Leader is off site or injured
- Keep list of campers with contact details always available

Oh yuk, a snake! I hope they don’t get any bigger than that.