

**POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE ASSOCIATION
CLEM MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER**

SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Ensuring the health and safety of everyone at in your group is your highest priority. Please be sure to acquaint yourself with these procedures prior to your visit.

Participant Health History & Issues

Educate yourself about the health history and concerns of your participants before your arrival day. This will greatly assist you in preparing for situations that may arise. Attend especially to serious allergic reactions, recent injuries, chronic conditions (asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, cardiopulmonary conditions), and regular medications. We strongly recommend you have each participant (or their parent/guardian) complete a medical history form. Please review and have these with you throughout your stay.

First Aid

Each group is required to bring a large “in-camp” first aid kit and a smaller kit for each field group (we keep a backup first aid kit in the Education Center for your use). Please acquaint yourself with the medical/first aid training of the facilitators, chaperones, and other adults in attendance. An emergency kit containing electric lanterns, radio, batteries and water purifier is located in the teacher’s room.

Emergency Protocol

Call 911 and remain on the line until directed to hang-up.

Assign the most responsible and medically trained adult to attend to the victim. National Park Service or Point Reyes Station Fire/Rescue personnel will be the first to respond to an emergency at the Education Center. Please post a responsible adult in the parking lot to direct emergency personnel to the victim’s location.

Hospital directions, contact numbers, and additional emergency information are posted by the telephone.

You are required to contact NPS Visitor Protection at 464-5170 to report any emergency situations (illness, injury, fire, etc) so that they may complete the required report.

Beaches & Cliffs

Strongly encourage all participants to stay away from the top and bottom of steep cliffs. All beaches except Limantour and Drakes are off-limits for swimming due to dangerous rip currents and sneaker waves. An adult who is a strong swimmer should be assigned to closely supervision children when they are anywhere near the water’s edge.

Wildlife, Plants & Fungi

Wildlife: To ensure the safety of participants and resident animals, please maintain respectful distance at all times. Mountain lions do reside in the park (although there is no record of an attack). Due to concern about rabies, bats (dead or alive) should never be touched.

Ticks & Lyme Disease: To reduce the possibility of encountering ticks, wear long pants, stay on hiking trails, avoid areas with high grass, and do a tick check after every hike. Embedded ticks should be pulled slowly, straight out of the skin using fingertips or special tick tweezers. You may wish to save the tick and have it tested for Lyme disease. Lyme disease is transmitted by prolonged subcutaneous contact with two types of female ticks (deer & western black-legged). Both species are very small and especially abundant during winter.

Plants & Fungi: Please discourage participants from touching or ingesting any plants or fungi (unless they are in the company of a knowledgeable guide and permitted to do as part of an educational program). Poison oak, poison hemlock and stinging nettle are of particular concern. In case of poison oak exposure, please use the Tecnu soap found in the Education Center bathroom. In case of poison hemlock or poison fungi ingestion, please get the victim to medical attention immediately. In case of exposure to stinging nettle, rinse the area with cool water.