

Blue Mountains Conservation Society

Bushwalking

Restarting Following COVID-19 Lockdown



Following the NSW Government Guidelines to allow, from 13th June, Outdoor Groups/Activities of up to 20 people, the Society will recommence bushwalk activities subject to the following conditions:

Start Date: from Monday 6th July.

Numbers: maximum of 20 walkers including the leader. Should more than 20 participants arrive, a second (and subsequent groups) will be formed each with a leader. If more than one group, such group(s) to depart at 15 minute intervals.

Compliance/Health: Social distancing to continue at 1.5 metres. If on tracks & another group is encountered approaching from the opposite direction, then our group(s) to move aside 1.5 metres to let opposite group pass.

No sharing of water bottles, food or equipment unless absolutely necessary (e.g injury, ill health, providing first aid)

All walkers to bring **OWN** hand sanitizer. Gloves & mask may be worn if walkers feel more comfortable.

Walkers to refrain from joining groups if they have any signs of being unwell – **no matter how mild.**

Sign On Sheet: is to be completed solely by the leader with participant's name, bushwalk number, renewal date & emergency contact phone number. Participant **not** to sign. The leader is to read out the Risk Waiver incorporated in the sign on sheet & have an acknowledgement by show of hands that the participants concur. The leader to sign off on the sheet under a written statement that "**all participants concurred**"

This format has been ratified by the insurer (via its broker) & Bushwalking NSW.

Walk Locations: Only to be within the Blue Mountains & adjoining National Parks & Council reserves & on tracks/fire trails **that are open**. No city walks or bus trips to be undertaken until all restrictions are lifted.

Walks will start from rail stations (excluding remote area walks) & programme formulation to take this into consideration.

Travelling/Transport: Either by public transport (again with social distancing) or by private car. Ride sharing & car pooling is strongly not favoured. However, where remote area walks are undertaken this restriction may be eased but should be limited to 2 persons per vehicle – driver & one rear passenger in the back - seated diagonally. This practice for remote area walkers is at their own risk at contracting Covid-19.

Plant Nursery: Should any of the above restrictions affect the practices of the Plant Nursery, then they should be adhered to. E.g. social distancing.