

## HEALTH & SAFETY AND INSURANCE

To be covered by Surfers Against Sewage public liability insurance, please write a risk assessment (guidance and example provided) and forward to [wildwaters@sag.org.uk](mailto:wildwaters@sag.org.uk) SAS will need to sign off your risk assessment prior to you taking your first sample.

### General guidance

- Do not enter the water to take a sample – use the extendable pole that we provide
- Water contact: avoid touching your face, cover any cuts, and wash or sanitize your hands after taking a sample.
- Bad weather: be sure to check forecasts and do not take a sample if the weather is poor. You should not take samples when the river is in flood or there is large swell, tides or currents.
- Wear appropriate clothing and footwear.
- Check in with your team: inform someone of your location and bring a phone.
- Water safety: never get in the water if it's not safe to do so. Try to stay out of the water wherever possible, by using bridges, piers, jetties or other platforms to sample from.
- Wildlife & boats: be mindful of surroundings and avoid interfering with local wildlife.

### Chemical safety

if you come into contact with chemicals, follow all handling and safety instructions set out by COSHH guidance: [Control of Substances Hazardous to Health \(COSHH\) - HSE](#)

- Virkon Safety Sheet [Virkon-S-msds-UK-issue-08.12.2022.pdf](#)
- [Virkon risk assessment COSHH](#)