



Irish Water Safety

The Long Walk
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Irish Water Safety is the statutory voluntary body established to promote water safety in Ireland.
Tá Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann ina bhord deonach reachtúil a bunaíodh le sábháilteacht uisce a chotú in Éireann.

Our partners in water safety



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WEIL'S DISEASE

Irish Water Safety in partnership with Friendly Systems

WEIL'S DISEASE

WHAT IS IT?

Weil's Disease also known as Leptospirosis is an acute, infectious disease. It is caused by different types of one bacteria of which there are over 200 known strains. Weil's Disease is spread in the urine of infected animals (wild and domestic) and in water or soil contaminated with infected urine. The bacteria thrive in wet and moist conditions and can survive for months in stagnant water or wet soil.

CONTRACTING THE DISEASE

The infection enters through broken, grazed or cut skin especially on the hands and feet and sometimes through the lining of the mouth, nose and eyes. It can also be picked up while wading or swimming in infected water.

SYMPTOMS:

Symptoms may include fever, headaches, chills, severe muscle pain in the calves and thighs, vomiting, diarrhoea and bloodshot eyes. Sometimes the fever may fluctuate and other symptoms such as a rash, jaundice, confusion, depression, kidney failure, liver failure and meningitis may occur. The incubation period is usually 10 days but can range from 4 to 19 days. If Symptoms persist please contact your G.P.

WHO IS AT RISK?

Effluent Treatment Plant Workers, Sewer Workers, Refuse collection and processing, Underground Cable Laying and Maintenance Workers, Miners, Farmers, Gardeners, Abattoir Workers, Animal Care Workers, People who use water for recreational purposes, Fishermen, Boating and Canoeing enthusiasts, Outdoor pursuits activities, i.e. Hill walking, camping, Scouting Associations, Rescue Services, Fire Services, Army and Garda Personnel.

PREVENTION:

Adhere to a rigid hygiene policy. Cover all cuts, scratches and abrasions with a waterproof dressing. Wear protective clothing especially gloves when handling soil, vegetation, animal feeds, tools or equipment that may be contaminated. Avoid touching mouth and nose. Food stuffs should not be consumed in the work area

SOLUTION:

USE FRIENDLY SYSTEMS' APPROVED PRODUCTS

Spray all suspect work areas with VIRID. On completion of work decontaminate all protective clothing, tools and equipment with a solution of VIRID. Sanitise hands thoroughly with Healthy Hands before eating and on completion of work. For further information on Approved Products & Educational Seminars, contact: **Friendly Systems**



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Wash hands before and after work



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Consult a Doctor if you suspect infection



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Treat tools before and after work



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Store tools away from possible infection