



LAKEWAVE FESTIVAL

JULY 18th -19th 2020
END OF KETTON ROAD
HAMBLETON, ENGLAND

FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT

Some of the risks at festivals can include fires, which include different safety hazards: a source of ignition, a source of fuel and oxygen. Ignition sources can consist of anything that produces heat such as cigarettes, electrical cooking equipment and matches, which can make fuel sources burn (through oxygen) such as wood, packaging left on the ground, posters and plastic.

Before opening the doors to the general public, a fire risk assessment should be carried out to identify all of the possible risks and fire hazards. After this assessment, the question will be about how to prevent these risks, and how to deal with them in case a fire does break out in order to keep everyone safe and minimise the consequences.

Fires can be prevented most of the time, and this is why there should always be a strict control when entering a festival, to limit the possibility of a fire breakout. On the other hand, all of the festival's staff members need to receive proper training on what to do in the event of a fire, attending the necessary fire drills.

In case of fire, who might be harmed and how?

Visitors, staff members and festival crew may be injured in case of fire, as well as local residents if the fire expands and is not controlled in time. These people would be risking severe burns, breathing in the smoke's toxic gases and passing out, and possibly dying. The fire would quickly spread across the festival since it is based on grass fields with different areas that are filled with trees, which easily catch fire.

Damaged cables that carry electricity from one point to another could also form a threat, electrical problems could arise from incorrect power flow and spikes of power could heat up the equipment up to the point where it burns other materials that are nearby and start a fire (since we will be carrying out regular checks on the staging and equipment, this will be an unlikely threat).

Although they probably will not be at the festival premises, the reputation of festival sponsors and public investors might suffer in case of fire, since their name will be associated with "that festival" that was not prepared and trained to prevent and control a fire, resulting in one or more deaths.

What will the festival do to control this risk?

All of the festival's infrastructures and pieces of equipment will be checked, examined and validated before the actual festival opens its doors to the public.

All of the staff members will receive briefing in order to follow a protocol in case of fire, knowing exactly where the emergency escape routes are, and the location of fire extinguishers. Staff members will also need to attend at least one of the fire drills previous the opening of the festival. There will be a team of fire watch stewards on duty throughout the festival and they shall be responsible for responding to all incidents. In case of a potential emergency, words such as 'fire' will not be permitted in order to avoid panic among attendees. Instead, fire incidents will be code worded according to their emergency type:

SOPHIE- Incident that doesn't require any fire service attendance and can be dealt with a fire extinguisher. These include

- Bin fires
- Small rubbish fires

SOPHIE'S MUM- Incident that requires immediate fire service attendance. These include:

- fire incident involving an explosion
- A tent fire
- A gas leak
- Incident involving a vehicle
- fire incident that puts forestation at risk

These codes will be used among staff in order to alert and report to the Event Control managers.

Festival visitors will receive e-mails previous to the 2-day event with a map indicating the emergency exits and the different locations of fire extinguishers (posters with this same information will be displayed all around the festival as well as during the events). In case of a bigger fire that cannot be controlled with regular fire extinguishers, the Oakham Fire Station is 10 minutes away, so in case of emergency, the fire brigades could arrive at the festival in no time with specialised equipment.

To prevent this risk of fire, visitors will only be allowed to bring a certain type of stove which cannot be used outside of the campsite (these are the solid fuel/ hexi stoves, green base camp cooker, heat based camp cooker, gel stoves and gas stoves with canisters under 2.7kg). Visitors will not be allowed to bring in any type of aerosol over 250ml, fireworks and pyrotechnics, spray cans, petrol burners, generators, blowtorches and oversized lighters. This is in order to decrease the possibility of a fire breaking out during the festival.

The festival will provide enough bins and recycling points to prevent rubbish from lying around, which could become a dangerous fuel source if it came in contact with any source of ignition, which then again could turn into a fire.

The festival organizers should create more awareness around the topic of fires, reminding their audience to take caution when cooking, lighting their cigarettes (if a cigarette is thrown on the floor when it is still lit, it could catch fire if it came in contact with things such as leaves, grass or paper) and leaving their trash behind. This can be done through informational e-mails, social media posts, and posters at the festival itself.

Multiple fire alarms should be installed at the festival to alert people in case of fire, these alarms should be heard from any area of the festival site, even near the lake where the water sports take place.

If any of the stages uses fire or fireworks for the shows, professional and licensed pyrotechnicians need to be around at all times, controlling the fire/fireworks and handling these explosives, making sure that everything works correctly and goes according to plan.

The festival organisers will keep track of any findings during the process of doing the risk assessment, and will add any new information during the festival and after receiving feedback from staff and visitors. This document will be updated and reviewed each year,

correcting and adjusting different things and adding new comments and observations to improve the safety of this festival.