

First-Aid Kit Checklist for Public Gardens

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Ensuring a positive guest experience is important for all public gardens. Unfortunately, minor injuries occur when exploring or working in natural spaces reinforcing the need for a robust incident response plan including first aid. Whether it be a guest, employee or volunteer, it is important to be ready and trained to assist those in need of care.

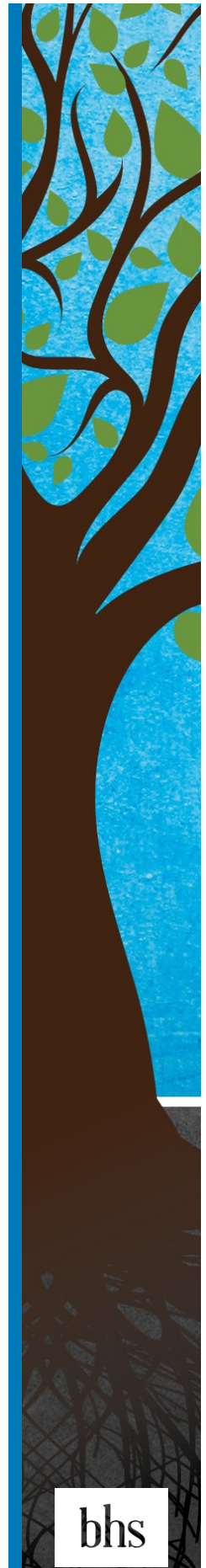
Furthermore, under OSHA's general industry regulations, employers must train a person (or persons) to provide first aid if there is no clinic, infirmary or hospital near the workplace. In these situations, you must also make first-aid supplies readily available.

What items are essential to include in a first-aid kit for a public garden? OSHA offers employers two guidelines for building a first-aid kit:

- Public Gardens should look at their workplace injury and illness records to determine the types of injuries their employees/guests are most likely to encounter; and
- Public Gardens should refer to the American National Standard Institute's (ANSI) 2015 publication titled "Minimum Requirements for Workplace First-aid Kits" and use it as an illustration of what should be included in a basic first-aid kit.

Lastly you should consider whether additional national, industry, state or local regulations may apply. These guidelines not only serve in preparedness for employee injuries but guest related as well. Here is a list of items recommended by the 2015 ANSI standard.

ANSI Z308.1-2015 Class A: Minimum Requirements for Workplace First-aid Kits and Supplies	
16	Adhesive bandages, 1 in. x 3 in.
1	Adhesive tape, 2.5 yd. (total)
10	Antibiotic Application, 1/57oz
10	Antiseptic, 1/57 oz.

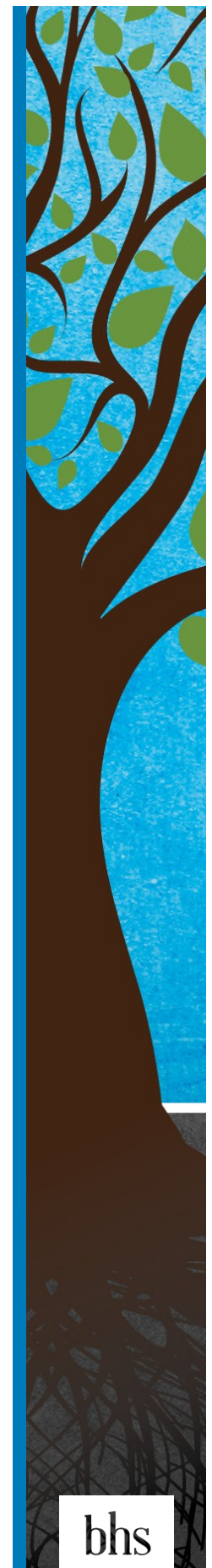


1	Breathing Barrier
1	Burn Dressing (gel soaked) 4 in. x 4 in.
10	Burn treatment, 1/32 oz.
1	Cold Pack 4 in. x 5 in. (keep a backup supply at the ready as these will go quickly)
2	Eye Covering with means of attachment 2.9 sq. in.
1	Eye/Skin Wash 1 fl. oz. total
1	First Aid Guide
6	Hand Sanitizer 1/32 oz.
2	Pairs of medical exam gloves
2	Sterile pads, 3 in. x 3 in.
2	Trauma pad 5 in. x 9 in.
1	Triangular bandage, 40 in. x 40 in. x 56 in.

Additional recommendations based on exposures common to public gardens.

(Not required by the ANSI standard)

1	Tourniquet and Clotting Materials (especially helpful for areas using power tools/chainsaws/woodworking equipment) In addition, it is being recommended as part of an active shooter preparedness plan. Proper training needs to be provided. Department of Defense supports use of SOF Tactical Tourniquet made by Tactical Medical Solutions & Combat Application Tourniquet made by North American Rescue.
	Ibuprofen, Tylenol, Benadryl (do not assist or demand but offer at their choice based on package directions)
	Sting Relief Packets
1	Tweezer (to assist in removing ticks)
	Cactus Needle removal kit (Elmer's glue, cheese cloth and tweezers)
	Smelling Salts for heat related incidents



A question often raised, “should we have an Epi Pen on hand”? Generally, an Epi Pen requires an individual prescription however there are new Epinephrine Stocking Laws that allow for schools and certain entities to gain access. A legal inquiry would need to be made as to the ability to secure, train and then maintain for your institution. Here is a [good resource](#) on the topic.

AED devices are also an essential part of a first aid response, next month we will address best practices in owning and maintaining an AED on site.

It is important to work with a trusted vendor who is familiar with your local codes and standards and will help keep your first-aid kits in compliance along with being updated and replenished.

Having kits located throughout the garden is essential; including in all buildings where the visitor has access, key employee/volunteer areas such as the horticulture facility as well as on golf carts & trams. The kits should be inspected monthly to ensure that they are adequately stocked and expiration dates reviewed.

CONTACT

Consult [BHS Insurance](#) to make sure your coverage is adequate and protects your risk sufficiently. For more information, please call Kim Slager or another member of the BHS Insurance Public Garden team at 800-350-7676.

