

# Wisconsin Mycological Society Foray Guidelines



## What should I wear?

Dress for the weather. We go out in all weather rain or shine.

The terrain will vary so wear appropriate shoes.

Not all sites have groomed trails so be prepared for hilly, muddy, rocky, or rough ground.

Bring a walking stick or hiking sticks if you need them.

Wear sturdy shoes; you will be on your feet for at least 2 hours.

Most areas are going to be in the woods. Wear what you would normally wear for a walk in the woods

Ticks are very bad this year, some of our foragers use Permethrin.

## Collecting mushrooms.

Use a sturdy container such as a wicker basket or plastic bucket to carry your specimens.

Use only paper bags, wax paper bags and tin foil for delicate specimens.

**DO NOT USE PLASTIC BAGS.** For collecting really small specimens, egg cartons or small compartmental boxes are a good choice. Use separate bags for each specimen.

Bring a pocket knife on a lanyard, and soft brush for wiping mushrooms clean.

A whistle comes in handy if you get lost. In the event of bee stings bring an Epi-pen and/or Benadryl.

For accurate identification purposes the whole specimen is needed including the base.

Do not cut off the mushroom at ground level.

You may have to dig underneath and all around the specimen. Include the substrate, moss, wood, twig. This will help to help identify the specimen.

If there are various stages of the mushroom collect them.

## I am new at collecting.

Some people foray on their own and others go in small groups. For those that are new it is fine to tag along with someone who is knowledgeable. That is a good way to learn

How to identify fungi. After two hours of foraging, we meet back at a specific site.

The specimens are laid out and then identified. Bring lunch, or at least a snack and don't forget to bring a beverage. It is important to stay hydrated.

## Other things to bring.

Anything that you would take with you typically when going for a walk in the woods: Water, Bug spray, Cell Phone, GPS, Compass, Hat, Fungi guide books.

**Have a great day out in the woods with like-minded people for an educational and fun filled day.**