

WEILS DISEASE INFORMATION SHEET

WEIL'S DISEASE

NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Weils Disease is caused by an organism which is present in many rivers, lakes and estuaries. There is a very small chance of catching the disease while taking part in water based outdoor activities.

Weils Disease responds well to early treatment. Left untreated, it has occasionally proved fatal.

Sensible precautions should be taken to minimise the risk. You will be told about these by your teacher or instructor.

The early symptoms of the disease are similar to influenza and include headache, temperature and joint or muscle pains.

If you fall ill with these symptoms within three weeks of taking part in water based activities, you should see your doctor immediately and show this card.

Please also inform your teacher, group leader or instructor.

WEILS DISEASE

NOTICE TO GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

The holder of this card has recently taken part in water sports or other water-based outdoor activities organised by a County School, Youth Group or Water Sports' Centres.

Cases of Weils Disease (Leptospirosis) have occurred in this region. Perhaps you may care to consider this diagnosis.

Urgent treatment is essential for Weils Disease. Advice on laboratory diagnosis may be obtained from you local hospital's Microbiology Department.

Thank you for your co-operation. For further information, please contact your local consultant Microbiologist.

Issued by Suffolk County Council
For further information contact the County Outdoor Education Officer
Tel: 01473 264706

Important

The contraction of a water based disease is rare, and Weils disease is the most common, but it not the only illness that can be passed to a human. If you notice any change in the health of anyone that has taken part in a water based activity, please follow the same advice given for Weil's disease and seek medical attention and pass this sheet onto your doctor.