

Litter Pick – Risk Assessment

Date of Litter Pick _____ Date of Assessment _____

Person who Completed Assessment _____

Hazard	Risks	Controls	Measures to Reduce Effect in Event of Accident
Broken glass, sharp/rusty edges	Cuts & infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use litter grabbers to pick up sharp litter. • All participants should have up to date tetanus protection. 	Seek medical attention where appropriate. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor
Needles	Cuts & infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave alone & report to council for removal. 	Seek medical attention where appropriate.
Heavy/awkward to handle rubbish	Pulled muscles & strains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extreme care to be taken, use good lifting practices and share the load with an appropriate number of people. If too heavy to handle leave the object in place and report it to the organiser to arrange removal by the council. 	Stop immediately if suffering any pain or discomfort. Seek medical attention if the ill effects persist.
Batteries, asbestos & miscellaneous chemicals	Potentially dangerous depending on condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not approach or remove any potentially hazardous waste. 	Seek medical attention if exposed to pesticides,

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Report to the council for disposal 	insecticides or other chemicals – record any label details.
Ground conditions	Sprains, muscle damage & broken bones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Avoid dangerous areas and choose the safest possible route over difficult ground. ● Instruct volunteers to wear suitable footwear 	Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. Seek medical attention for any serious cuts, bruises or strains.
Highways vehicles, bicycles, plant and machinery	Collision with moving traffic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Avoid close proximity to traffic if possible. ● Stay off the highway. ● Be alert to the potential presence of agricultural machinery. ● Wear high visibility clothing if necessary. ● Do not work on the roadside if the speed limit is 40mph or over. ● Be aware of the vehicles around you during the litter pick. ● Keep a look out. ● Children should not work by a road-side 	Seek medical attention in the event of injury.
People, lone working	Physical or verbal assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be aware of aggressive and difficult people. ● Withdraw rather than face conflict. 	Seek medical attention following any assault / injury.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not work out of sight of others in the group. • Organiser/section leader to have mobile phone. • Keep together and stay off private property. 	
Animals – Domestic, wild & farm	Lymes Disease carried by animal ticks & bites/scratches from animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear appropriate clothing. • Beware of loose dogs. • Avoid contact with animals. • Avoid contact with animal faeces. 	Seek medical attention as soon as possible after being bitten or scratched. Wash hands immediately after contact with faeces. Avoid touching eyes or mouth.
Waterside diseases	Weil's Disease from rat's urine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not touch dead animals. • Cover any cuts or sores with a waterproof plaster before carrying out a litter pick. • Avoid getting hands wet in rivers, ponds or canals. 	Seek medical attention where appropriate. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor
Dog faeces	Toxocara canis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not touch dog faeces. • Always wear gloves and use a shovel when removing dog faeces. 	Thoroughly wash your hands. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. Seek medical attention where appropriate.
Weather e.g. heavy rain, hunder storms	Various health issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cease work in inappropriate conditions. • Avoid working in extreme conditions. 	Seek medical attention where appropriate.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress for conditions & carry additional clothing. • In the event of extreme weather conditions, the litter pick should be postponed or abandoned 	
Cliffs and, steep slopes	Falls leading to sprains, muscle damage & broken bones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruct volunteers to stay away from these areas. • Avoid picking on or close to the edge of cliffs, steep slopes etc and below unstable cliffs & slopes. • Take weather conditions and possible weather changes into account. • Seek medical treatment in the event of injury. 	Seek medical attention where appropriate.
Electric fences	Electrocution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always assume electric fences are live. • Warn volunteers not to touch electric fences 	Seek medical attention where appropriate.
Water, marshes, bogs	Hypothermia, drowning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid banks, especially if they appear unstable • Always work in pairs if close to water. • Shower and change into warm dry clothing if immersed. 	Seek medical attention where appropriate.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never allow children to work in these areas. • Adults should be cautious & non-swimmers must not litter pick near water 	
Hedges, fences, walls, ditches	Falls, sprains, broken bones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take care when climbing stiles particularly in wet weather. • Avoid climbing walls, ditches and fences. • Stay within the nominated location 	Seek medical attention where appropriate.
Tools, equipment	Various injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team to be shown how to use equipment if appropriate. • Allow sufficient working area for the correct and safe use of the tool. • Use appropriate protection • First aid training. • Have first aid kit available. • Volunteers must use the equipment provided and as instructed 	Obtain medical attention in the event of injury.
Trees, shrubs	Trips, cuts & eye pokes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be alert to the risks and keep a look out for hazards. 	Obtain medical attention in the event of injury.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be aware of low hanging branches and exposed tree and shrub roots. 	
Irritants, dangerous plants	Poisoning, skin irritations or allergic reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wear the gloves provided. ● Beware of dangerous plants and possible adverse reactions. ● Wash thoroughly on completion of such operations. 	Seek medical attention for unusual or suspicious symptoms after contact with vegetation.

On Completion of the Litter Pick Ensure:

- Everyone washes their hands thoroughly as soon as possible after the litter pick and before taking any food or drink.
- Any wounds are redressed after cleaning and disinfecting if there has been any contact with water.
- Volunteers carry out a personal inspection for cuts etc.
- Report any hazardous items to the Council.
- All volunteers have reported back and all equipment is collected back in.
- All rubbish for collection has been left in the arranged pick up site.
- Any bags containing sharp material, e.g. broken glass, are clearly identified.