



GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT – LITTER PICKING ACTIVITY

Assessors Names:	Assessment Date:	Review Date
Area:	Identify People at Risk:	

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	What further action is necessary?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
Lack of information and awareness	Volunteers	All volunteers should be given a briefing Safety Talk, covering the above risks and general information about correct use of the equipment, the site	None	Group Leader	On the day	
Sunburn Extreme cold or wet weather	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-aider on site, with access to First Aid waist bag • Wear suitable clothing (gloves at all times, sleeves and trousers) • In hot weather, wear hat • Apply sunblock before beginning the activity and re-apply as required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider suspending work if weather is sufficiently extreme 	Group Leader	On the day	
	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear warm layers and waterproof clothing • Wear thick socks and sturdy boots or shoes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider suspending work if weather is sufficiently extreme 	Group Leader	On the day	
Cuts and grazes Stings or bites from vegetation or insects	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-aider on site, with access to First Aid waist bag • No unprotected feet – wear sturdy shoes, boots or trainers • Wear suitable clothing (gloves at all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake an on-site review of the area to be cleaned, identify any hazards and brief volunteers before 	Group leader	In advance of the day or on the day	



		<p>times, sleeves and trousers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All volunteers to use litter-pickers to collect rubbish - NEVER scoop up items by hand • Be wary of uneven ground and trip hazards including trailing vegetation 	event begins			
Slips, trips and falls	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear supportive and slip-resistant footwear • Take care when negotiating property steps • Observe ground and aware of potential trip hazards • If in doubt don't carry on if an area looks slippery or dangerous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Leader will remind workers to take care when pavements are slippery from rain, leaves, ice, snow, etc. • Group Leader will check clothing and footwear • Group Leader will consider suspending work if weather is sufficiently extreme 	Group Leader	On the day	
Working near roads and car parks	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children to remain under supervision and in sight of a responsible adult at all times • Briefing to include warning on roads, speed limits and any known hazards • Briefing to include warning to always focus when crossing streets and be aware of surroundings at all times • Be aware of cars, potentially trying to park, maintain vigilance, give warning to others of approaching vehicles 	Check for any unusual hazards on the day itself	Group Leader	On the day	



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children not to pick litter from the road but to remain on pavements and paths • Tabards or hi-vis to be worn at all times 				
Syringes and medical waste	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site survey prior to event to check for any evidence of syringes. Volunteers finding syringes should not touch them, but immediately notify the Group Leader who will arrange disposal via the local authority. All work must then cease in this particular area • Any accidental piercing by syringe should be immediately treated at medical practice or A & E (see below) 	Remain vigilant at all time during the clean up and end the clean up immediately if syringes are found	Briefing by Group Leader to all volunteers	On the day	
Manual handling	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers advised to be aware of their own limitations by the Group Leader during the briefing and not lift heavy items found during the clean up • Volunteers with pre-existing injuries are not to lift bags or heavy items • No more than one bag at a time to be carried • A trolley to be used where bags or other items are too heavy to lift safely 	Group Leader to ensure this is covered in the safety briefing delivered ahead of the clean up starting	Group Leader	On the day	
Dog Fouling		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise on issue of dog fouling during the briefing • Do not touch dog fouling • If a volunteer steps in dog faeces, clean shoes if possible • If found warn others in the vicinity 	Group Leader to deliver briefing on the day	Group Leader	On the day	
Hazardous chemicals	Volunteers	Any suspicious drums, materials or containers with contents not identifiable to be left untouched and Environment	Site survey at beginning of clean up	Group Leader	On the day	



		Agency Pollution Hotline to be contacted (Tel 0800 7312453)				
Lack of information and awareness	Volunteers	All volunteers should be given a briefing Safety Talk, covering the above risks and general information about correct use of the equipment, the site	None	Group Leader	On the day	
Safeguarding children	Children and vulnerable adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children and any vulnerable adults to be accompanied by responsible adult (parent, carer or teacher) in approved ratios No child to be out of sight of a responsible adult Where DBS is required for individuals this is in place All staff on site to maintain vigilance where members of the public not participating in the event are using the same public space All event volunteers to wear event tabards to allow easy identification In the event of an incident, immediately inform the local Police and any other relevant agencies 	Check for unaccompanied children and confirm supervision ratios are satisfactory	Group Leader	On the day	
Aggressive dogs	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid areas if any evidence of aggressive dogs Volunteers to maintain vigilance for dogs off leads Dog Walkers in vicinity to be advised by group leader of the litter pick and to keep dogs under control Children to remain under adult supervision and within sight of adults at all times 	Check site for evidence of dogs	Group Leader	On the day	



		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adopt recommended posture if confronted by a dog – do not look in eyes, look down, do not run, pull limbs into body• Retreat slowly• Visit A&E if bitten or attacked• Report attack to the Police				
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