

## Risk assessment – litter picking



<b>Date of assessment:</b>	<b>Assessed by:</b>
<b>Review date: April 2019</b>	

**Volunteer litter pick.**

All volunteers to wear appropriate clothing, gloves and footwear together with any other items highlighted in the RA below  
 Everyone to wash hands thoroughly as soon as possible after the litter pick and before taking any food or drink.  
 Any wounds covered and then redressed after cleaning and disinfecting if there has been any contact with water.  
 Volunteers carry out a personal inspection for cuts, ticks etc.  
 Report any hazardous items to the Council or Police as outlined within the risk assessment.  
 All volunteers have reported back and all equipment is collected back in.  
 All rubbish for collection has been left in the pre-arranged pick up site.  
 Any bags / receptacles containing sharp material, eg broken glass, are clearly identified.  
 Lone working should not take place, and volunteers should carry a mobile phone and have access to first aid in the event of an emergency.  
 Volunteers need to self-assess each task before taking part in line with their own limitations, for example back concerns, angina –  
 lifting/weather conditions

What hazards are present or may be generated?	Who might be harmed by the hazards and how?	What control measures/ precautions are in place to eliminate or reduce the risk?	Is the residual risk acceptable?		If no to the previous question, what additional control measures/ precautions are needed to manage the risk?	Additional control measures implemented:		
			Yes	No		Action by whom?	Action by when?	Date complete
Dog Faeces	Employees Volunteers Toxocara canis	Volunteers are to not remove any dog faeces from the site, unless bagged and are using a litter picker provided.	Yes		None			

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		Wash/clean hands before eating/smoking etc.						
Sharps (eg syringes) /broken glass – litter picking within undergrowth	Employees Volunteers  Cuts, lacerations, puncture wounds and possible infection	Volunteers are not to touch/remove any syringes  Please report syringe location to the NSC (01934 888 888) to notify Glendale who will remove accordingly.  Use of suitable gloves Use of litter pickers Place in box, bucket etc to reduce injury during transportation Ensure all participants have current tetanus cover Seek medical attention if required  Do not overload bags or carry too close to the body.	Yes		None			
Uneven ground, trip hazards	Employees. Volunteers	Volunteers to be aware of their surroundings whilst carrying out their work.  Team Leader to highlight any known hazards on the site. Take care around slippery surfaces – especially around water, wear suitable footwear.	Yes		None			

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Highways (carriageway and footway) Vehicles Bicycles Plant and Machinery	Employees. Volunteers Collision with moving traffic / plant	<p>Work will be carried out predominantly within open spaces/parks and the pathway networks.</p> <p>If litter picking takes place in the vicinity of a highway then volunteers may only work from the footway (pavement)</p> <p>Wear hi vis and move towards the direction of oncoming traffic. Volunteers must not step onto or work on the carriageway.</p> <p>Signs should be posted advising men at work or temporary works, take place in good visibility and dry weather conditions.</p> <p>Only litter pick roads with max speed limit of 30mph.</p> <p>Be aware of the likelihood of agricultural machinery in the area</p>	Yes		None			
Bushes/hedge rows	<b>Employees Volunteers Abrasions puncture wounds, eye injuries</b>	Where litter picking is required under shrubs and hedgerows individuals must be aware of the potential danger of branches at eye height.	Yes		None			

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			Yes	No		Action by whom?	Action by when?	Date complete
		<p>Do not remove litter if there is a risk of injury.</p> <p>Gloves to be worn to prevent skin scratches, appropriate clothing to be worn.</p>						
Ponds, Lakes, Slipways, Ditches, Marsh and other water margins	<p>Employees Volunteers Microbiological infection e.g. Weils disease</p> <p>Immersion</p>	<p>Cover cuts and abrasions with waterproof plasters</p> <p>Individuals should not to attempt to pick litter from water bodies unless easily accessible.</p> <p>If you come into contact with water hands must be washed before eating//smoking etc.</p> <p>Individuals should not be litter picking the ditches unless the litter is easily accessible, and should not be leaning in/over the ditch to reach the litter.</p>	Yes		None			
Dogs off lead	Employees Volunteers	<p>Some areas within north Somerset are agreed areas for people to exercise their dogs off lead.</p> <p>Volunteers to be aware of their surroundings and dogs within the park. Should no approach unknown dogs without permission from owner</p>	Yes		None			

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			Yes	No		Action by whom?	Action by when?	Date complete
Heavy or awkward items	Employees or volunteers Pulled muscles, strains or sprains	Do not move if too heavy for one person Share the load with others if safe to do so If too heavy contact (01934 888 888) to notify Glendale who will remove accordingly.	Yes					
Batteries, asbestos containing materials, refrigerator coolant and other chemicals	Employees and volunteers Potentially dangerous to via inhalation, ingestion or absorption	Do not remove but report location via (01934 888 888) to notify Glendale who will remove accordingly.  Seek medical attention if necessary take note of any information relating to product name , packaging etc.	Yes					
Weather conditions	Employees and volunteers Hypohermia heat stroke sun burn Dehydration etc	Stop work in poor weather conditions Ensure dressed appropriately for conditions Use of sun block Maintain hydration levels	Yes					
Cliffs and steep slopes	Employees and volunteers Falls leading to fracture strains, sprains	Designate safe working area Consider weather conditions e.g poor visibility high winds etc	Yes					

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Use of hand tools	Employees and volunteers  Cuts strains	Instruction in use Ensure enough space for the correct use of the tool Use appropriate protection if required Volunteers to use equipment provided and in the way instructed as relevant	Yes					
Dangerous plants, insects and other irritants, e.g. Giant Hogweed	Employees and volunteers	Wear appropriate protective clothing Be aware of dangerous plants and potential adverse health effects Check for ticks if working within grassy areas. If tick located follow medical advice ( <a href="http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/socialcare/health/staying-well/be-tick-aware/">http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/socialcare/health/staying-well/be-tick-aware/</a> )	Yes					
Possible unexploded device	Employees and volunteers	If any possible device is located during litter picking – more likely along a coast line – volunteers are not to touch. Inform the police in the first instance 101 or 999 in case of an emergency and identify location and description of object. Please also inform council connect on 01934 888 888	Yes					