

H&S Risk Assessment – *Tree Planting Aftercare*



Date of Assessment: June 2021	Assessed by: Samantha Phillips, Natural Environment Officer Cate Sampson, Health and Safety Advisor
Review date: June 2022	
Volunteer tree planting aftercare.	
<p>All volunteers to wear appropriate clothing and footwear together with any other items highlighted in the RA below – volunteers to bring their own gloves. Only attend session if you have booked a place in advance. All 18s and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Do not attend session if you, or any person in your household, is displaying symptoms of COVID 19. Volunteers need to self-assess each task before taking part in line with their own limitations, i.e. back issues, angina, etc. Discuss with leader further if any concerns. Everyone to wash hands thoroughly as soon as possible after the tree planting aftercare session and before taking any food or drink. Recommended that hand sanitiser is used at the beginning and end of the sessions. Any wounds covered and then redressed after cleaning and disinfecting. particularly if there has been any contact with water. Report any hazardous items to the session leader. Volunteers to only work within the indicated areas. COVID 19 H&S guidance to be followed at all times. Social distancing must be maintained at all times. All volunteers have report back at the end of the session. Following the session, volunteers should carry out a personal inspection for cuts, ticks, etc.</p>	

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 <i>Toxocara canis</i>	Volunteers are to not remove any dog faeces from the site, unless bagged and are using a litter picker provided. Wash/clean hands before eating/smoking etc.	Yes		None			
Dogs off lead	Employees, Volunteers	Agreed areas within North Somerset are for people to exercise their dogs off lead. Volunteers to be aware of their surroundings and dogs within the area. Should not approach unknown dogs without permission from owner.	Yes		None			
Sharps, e.g. syringes, broken glass, etc – litter picking within undergrowth/long grass	Employees, Volunteers Cuts, lacerations, puncture wounds and possible infection.	Volunteers are not to touch/remove any syringes. Please report to leader who will report syringe location to the NSC (01934 888 888) to notify Glendale who will remove accordingly. Participants should have current tetanus cover. Seek medical attention if required.	Yes		None			

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Use of hand tools (spades, shovel)	Employees and volunteers Cuts, sprains and strains.	Instruction in use. Ensure enough space for the correct use of the tool. Use appropriate PPE if required. Volunteers to use equipment in the way instructed as relevant.	Yes					
Tree planting aftercare	Employees and volunteers Twisting, bending and lifting.	Stop work if at any time if task becomes too much. Be aware of individual limitations – go at own pace. Have breaks when required. Don't overload spades or shovels. Cap bamboo canes with yoghurt pots or similar while working on that tree (to be provided)	Yes					
Weather conditions	Employees and volunteers Hypothermia, heat stroke, sun burn. Dehydration, etc.	Stop work in poor weather conditions. Ensure dressed appropriately for conditions. Use sun block if necessary. Maintain hydration levels.	Yes					
What hazards are present or	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	Additional control measures implemented:		

may be generated?					measures/ precautions are needed to manage the risk?			
Cliffs and steep slopes	<p>Employees and volunteers</p> <p>Falls leading to fracture, strains, sprains.</p>	<p>Designate safe working area.</p> <p>Consider weather conditions, e.g. poor visibility, high winds, etc.</p>	Yes					
Uneven ground, trip hazards	<p>Employees. Volunteers.</p> <p>Slips, trips and falls.</p>	<p>Volunteers to be aware of their surroundings whilst carrying out their work.</p> <p>Team Leader to highlight any known hazards on the site.</p> <p>Take care around slippery surfaces, especially around water.</p> <p>Wear suitable footwear.</p>	Yes		None			
<p>Highways (carriageway and footway)</p> <p>Vehicles</p> <p>Bicycles</p> <p>Plant and Machinery</p>	<p>Employees. Volunteers.</p> <p>Collision with moving traffic / plant.</p>	<p>Work will be carried out predominantly within open spaces/parks and the pathway networks.</p> <p>If tree planting aftercare takes place in the vicinity of a highway then volunteers may only work from the footway (pavement).</p> <p>Volunteers must not step onto or work on the carriageway.</p> <p>Wear hi-viz jackets when near carriage way.</p> <p>Session leaders to act as banks person to watch for oncoming vehicles if necessary.</p>	Yes		None			

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:		
Bushes, hedgerows, vegetation.	Employees. Volunteers. Abrasions, puncture wounds, eye injuries.	Individuals must be aware of the potential danger of branches at eye level.	Yes		None			
Ponds, Lakes, Slipways, Ditches, Marsh and other water margins.	Employees. Volunteers. Microbiological infection e.g. Weils disease Immersion	Cover cuts and abrasions with waterproof plasters. If you come into contact with water, hands must be washed before eating, smoking, etc. Individuals should not enter ditches.	Yes		None			
Batteries, asbestos containing materials, refrigerator coolant and other chemicals.	Employees and volunteers Potentially dangerous via inhalation, ingestion or absorption.	Do not remove but report location via (01934 888 888) to notify NSC who will ensure removal accordingly. Seek medical attention if necessary take note of any information relating to product name, packaging, etc.	Yes					

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Dangerous plants and other irritants e.g. Giant Hogweed	Employees and volunteers Blistering of the skin by contact.	Wear appropriate protective clothing. Be aware of dangerous plants and potential adverse health effects.	Yes					
COVID 19	Employees and volunteers, other members of the public Risk of infection	Do not attend if you or anyone in your house hold is displaying signs or has a confirmed case, including asymptomatic, of COVID 19. Sessions to be capped to ensure adequate social distancing can take place, limitations of tool sharing, and fall within current Government guidelines Ensure social distancing is always maintained, unless part of your household/bubble Use hand sanitizer before and after each session and wash hands as soon as possible Limit car sharing unless part of same household/bubble Limit contact with face and eyes during the session. Ensure activities does not impact on other users of the open space – maintain social distancing.	Yes					