

REEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL LITTER PICK RISK ASSESSMENT VOLUNTEER WORKERS			DATE: March 2025 REVIEW: March 2027	
HAZARD	RISK	CONTROLS	MEASURES TO REDUCE EFFECT IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT	RISK H/L/M
Highways vehicles, bicycles, plant and machinery	Collision with moving traffic	• Wear high visibility clothing of the relevant standard if on or near the highway. The highway includes footpaths and verges • Stay off the carriageway. Do not approach within 0.5m of the roadside if the speed limit is 40mph or over on a single carriageway • Work facing traffic • Avoid close proximity to traffic if possible • Be alert to the potential presence of agricultural machinery • Be aware of the vehicles around you during the litter pick • At all times be mindful of your environment and the traffic conditions, pedestrian and vehicular, in which you are working. • Keep a look out	Seek medical attention in the event of injury	H
Tools, equipment	Incorrect use of tools	• Volunteers to be shown how to use equipment. • Volunteers must use the equipment provided and as instructed • Use appropriate protection – gloves and sturdy footwear. • First aid kit to be provided	Obtain medical attention in the event of injury	L

Ground conditions	Sprains, muscle damage & broken bones.	• Volunteers to wear suitable footwear. • Be wary of uneven ground and trip hazards, including trailing vegetation • Do not venture into steeply banked areas.	Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. Seek medical attention for any serious cuts, bruises or strains	M
Hedges, fences, walls, ditches	Sprains, falls, broken bones	• Take care when climbing stiles particularly in wet weather • Avoid climbing walls, ditches and fences • Stay within the nominated location	Seek medical attention for any injury	L
Trees, shrubs	Trips, cuts and eye injuries	• Be alert to the risks and keep a look out for hazards • Be aware of low hanging branches and exposed tree and shrub roots	Obtain medical attention in the event of injury	M
Irritants, dangerous plants	Poisoning, skin irritations or allergic reactions	• Wear heavy duty gloves • Wear appropriate clothing • 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	M
Adverse weather conditions	Sprains, cuts and bruises, fatigue, chill, dehydration, sunburn	• Be aware of local weather reports • Dress for conditions and carry additional clothing if necessary • Avoid working in extreme conditions. • Cease work in inappropriate conditions • Take breaks as appropriate	Obtain medical assistance as appropriate	L
Heavy/awkward to handle rubbish/items	Pulled muscles and strains	• Assess the weight of any load before handling. 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 • Do not leave sacks of litter or sweepings where they will be a danger	Stop immediately if suffering any pain or discomfort Seek medical attention if the ill effects persist	M

Broken glass, sharp/rusty edges	Cuts and infections	• Suitable gloves to be worn at all times. • Use litter grabbers to pick up sharp litter • Broken glass or other sharp objects should be swept onto a shovel or picked up with a scoop or litter picker.	Seek medical attention where appropriate. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor	H
Needles, sharps and syringes	Cuts and infections	• Do not touch, leave alone and report to event organiser to dispose of in sharps container using litter grabber, or report to council for removal	Any accidental piercing by syringe must be treated immediately, either by first aider or Accident & Emergency service. Seek medical attention where appropriate	L
Dog fouling	Infections and diseases	• Do not touch unbagged dog faeces • Use litter pickers at all times • Be watchful of ground surface and do not step into dog faeces	Thoroughly wash hands before eating drinking or going to the toilet if in contact with dog faeces.	M
Hazardous waste including batteries, asbestos and miscellaneous chemicals	Potentially dangerous depending on condition	• Do not approach or remove any potentially hazardous waste • Hazardous chemicals, suspicious drums, materials or containers with contents not identifiable to be left untouched and reported to Litter Pick Organiser.	Seek medical attention if exposed to pesticides, insecticides or other chemicals – record any label details	L
Lone working Abuse / violence	Physical or verbal assault	• Be aware of aggressive and difficult people • Withdraw rather than face conflict • Ensure mobile phone is available • Do not venture on to private property	Seek medical attention following any assault/injury	L
Animals – Domestic, wild and farm	Lymes Disease carried by animal ticks and bites/scratches from animals	• 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	L
Electric fences	Electrocution	• Always assume electric fences are live • Warn volunteers not to touch electric fences	Seek medical attention where appropriate	L

Water courses	Drowning, waterbourne disease	• Avoid banks, especially if they appear unstable. Always work in pairs if close to water • Do not enter any rivers or water filled ditches • Do not attempt to pick litter from rivers.	Seek medical attention where appropriate	M
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On Completion of the Litter Pick:

- Everyone to wash 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, grazes, etc.
- 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
- Record any reported hazardous material for reporting to the District Council