

Risk Assessment for community led litter picks

The lead person of the litter pick must complete this form and include their name.

- All volunteers must be briefed before the start of the litter pick.
- A risk assessment must be carried out before every litter pick activity.
- The named lead must ensure all volunteers have appropriate equipment e.g. gloves, reflective hi-visibility waistcoats or light-coloured clothing, litter pickers, strong boots or shoes.

Litter picking events are for small items of rubbish, such as crisp packets, food wrappers, drink cans etc.. not large items of rubbish.

Rubbish collected can either be disposed of by volunteers or arrangements made for collection on the day following the event.

Named lead:

Street name(s):

[Note – do not go on to private land]

Date activity to take place:

Do you have/ need liability insurance? (see FAQ's for more information)

Is there a RISK of or from:	Y/N	What is the HAZARD	ACTIONS to be taken to reduce risk
1. Cuts from glass or steel (rusty edges)		Broken glass, sharp/rusty edges	Use litter pick to pick up sharp litter. Secure items safely or make a note of the location and contact City of Wolverhampton Council. Seek medical help if required.
2. Cuts from needles (syringes)		Needles	Leave all needles. Make a note of the location and contact City of Wolverhampton Council. Seek medical help if required.
3. Is there a risk of children becoming lost		Children attending litter pick	Parents/ carers to be clearly informed they are still responsible for children's safety.
4. Exposure to dangerous chemicals and materials		Batteries, miscellaneous chemicals or asbestos	Do not approach or remove any potentially hazardous waste. Make a note of the location and contact City of Wolverhampton Council. Seek medical help if required.
5. Of contact with dangerous plants		Dangerous plants	Wear gloves. Be aware of dangerous plants and possible reactions. Wash hands thoroughly. Seek medical help if required. Record any label details.
6. Collision with vehicles		Road vehicles cars /motorbikes on roads and highways	Avoid proximity to cars and roads. Be aware and look out. Do not litter pick on roads with more than 40mph speed limits. Seek medical help if required.

7. A manual handling injury		Heavy/awkward rubbish	Take care when lifting – use good lifting practises and share the load. If an item is too heavy make a note of the location and contact City of Wolverhampton Council. Seek medical help if required.
8. Falling from height		Sheer edges and bridges	Stay away from these area. Avoid litter picking on sheer edges. Seek medical help if required.
9. Tripping or slipping		Steep slopes, ground condition, hedges, fences, walls, ditches and roots.	Avoid dangerous areas and choose safest route. Wear sensible footwear. Avoid litter picking on steep slopes. Take care when climbing stiles particularly in wet weather. Avoid climbing walls or fences. Seek medical help if required.
10. Bites or scratches		Animals/domestic or wild	Beware of dogs. Avoid contact with all animals. Seek medical help if required.
11. Toxocara canis (round worms)		Dog Faeces	Do not touch dog faeces. Always wear gloves. Seek medical help if required.
12. Drowning		Water marshes and bogs	Avoid banks especially if it appears to be unstable and work in pairs. Be aware of surroundings. Non-swimmers must not be near the water. Seek medical help if required.
13. Exposure to heat or hot Sun/Cold		Weather	Stop work in adverse weather. Dress appropriately for conditions. Advise all volunteers to bring water to drink. The activity to be cancelled on the day in the event of extreme weather i.e. very heavy rain/ flooding or thunder storms etc. Seek medical help if required.
14. Risk of trips, cuts and eye pokes		Trees, bushes, shrubs	Be aware of the environment. Be aware of hazards and risks. Be aware of branches and roots. Seek medical help if required.
15. Allergic reaction to stings		Bees and wasps	Be aware of any allergies in your group. Seek medical help if required.
16. Is there a risk of physical or verbal assault		Lone working, litterers and the public	Be aware of aggressive individual. Do not get involved in a conflict. Have a phone and let someone know where you are. Seek medical help if required.
17. Electric shock or electrocution from cables or fences		Electric fences or exposed wires	Always assume the fence or wire is live. Do not touch the electric fence or wire. Seek medical help if required.