

Risk Assessment for Volunteer Litter Picking in North Bradley

The Parish Council greatly appreciates the efforts of volunteers who carry out litter picks in the parish. Please only undertake litter picking if you are happy to do so; there is no obligation or expectation from North Bradley Parish Council for you to do this. The Parish Council does insure any litter pickers for public liability, however there are certain conditions which need to be met for everybody's safety. The volunteers:

- are acting under the instructions of the parish council
- have received and read the following risk assessment
- are carrying out litter picking in accordance with General Data Protection Regulations
- should have the correct Personal Protective Equipment - thick gloves, hi-viz jacket, sensible footwear, weather appropriate clothing
- should have the correct equipment - e.g. litter grabbers, plastic bags, dog waste bags, brush, shovel and know how to use the equipment
- should know the area and how to report incidents or hazardous or unidentified waste, where to get first aid and deposit bags of waste.

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROLS	MEASURES TO REDUCE EFFECT IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT
Broken glass, sharp rusty edges	Cuts and infections	Use litter grabbers to pick up sharp litter Participants should have up to date tetanus protection	Seek medical attention where appropriate Thorough wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor
Needles	Cuts and infections	Leave alone and report to Wiltshire Council for removal	Seek medical attention where appropriate
Heavy/awkward to handle rubbish	Pulled muscles and strains	Extreme care to be taken, use good lifting practices and share the load with an appropriate number of people. Report it to Wiltshire Council for collection	Stop immediately if suffering any pain or discomfort. Seek medical attention if symptoms persist

Batteries, asbestos & miscellaneous chemicals	Potentially dangerous depending on condition	Do not approach or remove any potentially hazardous waste Report to Wiltshire Council for disposal, record and pass on any label details.	Seek medical attention if exposed to pesticides, insecticides or other chemicals
Ground conditions	Sprains, muscle damage & broken bones	Avoid dangerous areas and choose the safest possible route over difficult ground Wear suitable footwear	Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. Seek medical attention where appropriate
Highways vehicles, bicycles, plant and machinery	Collision with moving traffic	Avoid close proximity to traffic if possible Stay off the highway Be alert to the potential presence of agricultural machinery Wear high visibility clothing if necessary Do not work on the roadside if the speed limit is 40mph or over Be aware of the vehicles around you during litter pick Keep a look out	Seek medical attention in the event of an injury
People, lone working	Physical or verbal assault	Be aware of aggressive and difficult people Withdraw rather than face conflict Do not work out of sight of other people	Seek medical attention following any assault/injury
Animals - domestic, wild and farm	Lymes Disease carried by animals Ticks, bites and scratches from animals	Wear appropriate clothing Beware loose dogs Avoid contact with animals and 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
Waterside diseases	Weil's Disease from rat's urine	Do not touch dead animals Cover any cuts or sores with a waterproof plaster before carrying out a litter pick Avoid getting hands wet in rivers, ponds or canals	Seek medical attention where appropriate. Thoroughly wash any

			cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor
Dog faeces	Toxocara canis	Do not touch dog faeces Always wear gloves and use a shovel when removing dog faeces	Thoroughly wash hands. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. Seek medical attention where appropriate.
Weather e.g. thunder storms	Various health issues	Cease work in appropriate conditions Avoid working in extreme conditions Dress for conditions and carry additional clothing In the event of extreme weather conditions the litter pick should be postponed or abandoned	Seek medical attention where appropriate
Electric fences	Electrocution	Always assume electric fences are live	Seek medical attention where appropriate
Water, marshes, bogs	Hypothermia, drowning	Avoid banks, especially if they appear unstable. Always work in pairs if near water Shower and change into warm dry clothing if immersed Never allow children to work in these areas Adults should be cautious and non-swimmer must not litter pick near water	See medical attention where appropriate
Hedges, fences, walls, ditches	Falls, sprains	Take care when climbing stiles, particularly in wet weather Avoid climbing walls, ditches and fences	Seek medical attention where appropriate
Trees, shrubs	Trips, cuts & eye pokes	Be alert to the risks and keep a look out for hazards e.g. fallen tree branches	Obtain medical attention in the event of injury
Irritants	Poisoning, skin irritation, allergic reactions	Wear gloves Beware of dangerous plants	Wash hands thoroughly See medical attention where appropriate

ADDENDUM DURING COVID 19 PANDEMIC

During any lockdown this guidance will support volunteers but only continue litter picking if you are happy to do so and in the safest way possible.

Litter picking can be carried out alone, with your household or support bubble or by following the government guidance at the time for meeting with people outside of your household.

Government guidance on the lockdown may tighten or ease over time, so please contact parish councillors or the Clerk if you have any questions about what is safe practice.

Additional precautions:

Volunteers should provide their own gloves

The Parish Council recommends that volunteers keep hold of any kit for the foreseeable future rather than return it after each use so that only they use it.

Guidance for volunteers working alone or in pairs:

Individuals currently shielding in 'at risk' groups or displaying symptoms (or in contact with those with symptoms) or have been advised to self-isolate should not litter pick.

Tell someone where you are going and stay in mobile contact.

Use your own gloves and a litter picker. Clean both after use before storing.

Wash hands before and after at home.

Carry hand sanitiser if you have some.

Stay at least 2 metres from fellow volunteer and members of the public.

Litter to be tied up in strong waste sack and be disposed of appropriately..