

## Litter Pick Health and Safety Guidance

This guidance is intended to ensure that the health, safety and welfare of any participants has been considered and that all reasonable precautions and controls are in place prior to a litter pick/clean up activity taking place. It is not a definitive list of all potential hazards but is intended as a guide to enable activity organisers to complete their own task specific Risk Assessment.

Please ensure that all participants are briefed on the day to ensure they safety. Please use the Clean Cornwall Litter Pick Pack and this guidance to help you prepare your brief, you will receive a copy in your acknowledgement email.

1. General conservation activities	
Potential Hazards	Suggested Controls
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact with plant sap and micro organisms, eg, tetanus</li> <li>• Contact with animal/bird urine/faeces, eg, Weil's disease, worms, campylobacter, canine parvovirus</li> <li>• Weather conditions</li> <li>• Contact with hand tools</li> <li>• Slip, trips and falls</li> <li>• Manual handling</li> <li>• Abuse from a member of the public</li> <li>• Cuts/bruises/burns/blisters/bites/stings</li> <li>• Lower back pain</li> <li>• Contracting disease</li> <li>• Sunburn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep area and materials tidy</li> <li>• Plan any lifting and ensure bags of litter are easy to lift</li> <li>• Wear sturdy footwear</li> <li>• Wash hands before eating / drinking or use hand sanitizer</li> <li>• Protect any cuts and avoid contact with stream/pond water</li> <li>• Stop work when weather conditions deteriorate</li> <li>• Reverse into parking spaces to provide clear visibility upon exit</li> <li>• Check phone signal at location in case of emergency or locate nearest working phone</li> <li>• Advise participants to keep covered, use high factor sunscreen when required.</li> <li>• Carry some basic first aid supplies, ie, plasters, bandages, dressings, eye wash, hand sanitiser</li> <li>• Seek medical advice as soon as possible if required for serious cuts, bites, stings, etc</li> <li>• Adhere to current government guidance on wearing personal protective equipment, eg, face masks, gloves</li> </ul>

<b>2. Litter Picking</b>	
<b>Potential Hazards</b>	<b>Potential Hazards</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broken glass, sharp objects</li> <li>• Drug paraphernalia and used personal waste items</li> <li>• Dog faeces</li> <li>• Finding hurt, stranded, lost or dead animals</li> <li>• Conflict asking people not to drop litter</li> <li>• Over filling rubbish sacks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broken glass, sharp objects</li> <li>• Drug paraphernalia and used personal waste items</li> <li>• Dog faeces</li> <li>• Finding hurt, stranded, lost or dead animals</li> <li>• Conflict asking people not to drop litter</li> <li>• Over filling rubbish sacks</li> </ul>

<b>3. People</b>	
<b>Potential Hazards</b>	<b>Suggested Controls</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The landowner must have granted permission for the litter pick/clean up event</li> <li>• Children and vulnerable adults may not be able to adequately assess risks associated with the activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior to any litter picking event on private land, the landowner should be visited by the organiser, the operation fully explained, an appointment for the event made and written consent obtained</li> <li>• Prior to any litter picking event on private land, ensure landowner has made arrangements for proper disposal of the litter (Cornwall Council collection service cannot be used for events on private land)</li> <li>• Parental consent to participate should be sought for any volunteers under the age of 18</li> <li>• All children and vulnerable adults must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times</li> <li>• Any volunteer with a known medical or other condition that may affect their welfare or that of others, should discuss with the organiser any special requirements they may have prior to the event taking place</li> </ul>

<b>4. Vehicles on roads and car parks</b>	
<b>Potential Hazards</b>	<b>Suggested Controls</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact with moving traffic</li> <li>• Being hit by flying objects from moving vehicle</li> <li>• Any vehicle used in the course of litter clean up should have been regularly serviced and maintained to a high standard. Only four-wheel drive vehicles should be taken off road</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter picks carried out on A roads and B roads are at your own risk and are not covered by Cornwall Council's public liability insurance</li> <li>• Prior to any litter picking event organisers should assess the level of risk associated with any road or areas where vehicle movements are likely</li> <li>• Advise participants of the risks associated with this hazard and inform them of areas which should not be accessed</li> <li>• Do not pick when visibility is poor. Be aware of traffic at all times and stop picking to allow vehicles to pass</li> <li>• Consider the need for supervisors to monitor participants</li> <li>• Hi-Viz tabards are provided and must be worn if litter picking on a road</li> <li>• Volunteers may only use vehicles in association with the litter pick if they are properly licensed and insured</li> </ul>

<b>5. Local/site specific</b>	
<b>Potential Hazards</b>	<b>Suggested Controls</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uneven land causing trips, slips and falls</li> <li>• Overhead power lines</li> <li>• Ponds, streams or sea</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organiser to identify any ground, hazards, power lines and water hazards prior to the event and advise participants on safety measures to be taken accordingly</li> </ul>