

Rochford District Council Risk Assessment

This form should be completed by the volunteer before the start of any litter pick.

Litter picking in a public area will always involve a level of risk to the individuals involved and possibly members of the general public. The level of risk will vary depending on the location, so prior to commencing a litter pick, it is recommended that a visual site inspection, risk assessment and checklist is completed to establish the risks and to identify and note the possible hazards.

Risk Assessment of (activity) – Litter Picking																																									
This Assessment Covers (location) –					Post code:																																				
Pre-Control Measures	Risk Rating:	Severity Rating:			Total Rating:																																				
Description of Hazard/Task: <i>Litter Picking</i>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Very unlikely</th> <th>Unlikely</th> <th>Likely</th> <th>Very likely</th> <th>Certain</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fatal injury/Disease</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">5</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">10</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">15</td> <td style="background-color: #f8d7da;">20</td> <td style="background-color: #f8d7da;">25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 days + off work</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">4</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">8</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">12</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">16</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Injury up to 7 days off work</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">3</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">6</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">9</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">12</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First aid injury</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">2</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">4</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">6</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">8</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minor injury</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">1</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">2</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">3</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">4</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Risk X Severity = Rating 16 – 25: Urgent Attention 08 – 15: Attention May Be Required						Very unlikely	Unlikely	Likely	Very likely	Certain	Fatal injury/Disease	5	10	15	20	25	7 days + off work	4	8	12	16	20	Injury up to 7 days off work	3	6	9	12	15	First aid injury	2	4	6	8	10	Minor injury	1	2	3	4	5
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Groups at Risk from Hazard/Task: <i>Volunteers</i> <i>Members of Public</i>																																									
Tools/Equipment/Substances Used: <i>Litter Picker</i> <i>Gloves</i> <i>Council-Issued Bin Bag</i> <i>Bin Bag Holder</i>																																									
Objectives: 1. Elimination 2. Substitution 3. Use of barriers 4. Use of procedures 5. Warning systems																																									

6. PPE				
Hazard:	Risk:	Control:	Level of Possible Injury:	Likelihood of occurrence:
Broken glass, sharp/ rusty edges	Cuts and infections	Use litter grabbers to pick up sharp litter. All participants should have up to date tetanus protection.		
Needles	Cuts and infections	Leave alone and report to Council for removal.		
Manual handling	Musculoskeletal disorders	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 Council to arrange removal.		
Batteries, asbestos & miscellaneous chemicals	Respiratory conditions, chemical burns and carcinogens	Do not approach or remove any potentially hazardous waste. Report to the Council for disposal.		
Slips, trips and fall / ground conditions	Musculoskeletal injury and broken bones	Avoid dangerous areas and choose the safest possible route over difficult ground. Volunteers should wear suitable footwear.		
Highways vehicles, bicycles, plant & machinery	Collision with moving traffic	Avoid close proximity to traffic. Stay off the highway. Be alert to the potential presence of plant and machinery off road. Wear high visibility clothing. Do not work on the roadside if the speed limit is above 30mph. Children should not work by a roadside		
Lone working	Physical or verbal assault	Be aware of aggressive and difficult people. Withdraw rather than face conflict. Inform next of kin of your location, keep a working mobile phone with you at all times. Keep off private property.		
Animals – domestic, wild and farm	Lymes Disease and bites/ scratches from animals	Wear appropriate clothing. Beware of loose dogs. Avoid contact with animals. Avoid contact with animal faeces.		

Ditches, rivers and water bodies	Weil's Disease	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 any waterbodies.		
Dog faeces	Toxocara Canis	Do not touch dog faeces. Always wear gloves.		
Weather	Various health issues	Plan ahead, working in good conditions. Cease work in inappropriate conditions. Avoid working in extreme conditions. Dress for conditions and carry additional clothing.		
Vegetation	Trips / falls, skin irritations / reactions, eye injury	Be alert to the risks and keep a look out for hazards. Where trousers and long sleeve tops. Be aware of low hanging branches and exposed tree and shrub roots. Do not lean into hedges to collect litter.		
Plant health	Allergic reactions, skin irritation, poisoning	Wear gloves. Be cautious of unknown plants, and educate yourself on poisonous plants and how to identify them. Wash thoroughly after litter picking.		
Tools and equipment	Musculoskeletal injury	Allow sufficient working area for the correct and safe use of the tool. Use appropriate protection. Have first aid kit available.		
Date of Assessment: (DDMMYYYY)		Signature of Event Organiser:		