

Swayfield Parish Council Risk Assessment for Volunteer Litter Picking.

This form should be completed before the start of routine litter picking and reviewed periodically. The points below are largely common sense and litter picks are generally very safe. It is unlikely that any serious hazards or incidents will be encountered.

Swayfield is a rural village and the village streets and lanes around the village are generally very safe with low traffic volumes however each litter picker should be given a copy of this risk assessment and their attention should be drawn to the hazards and controls below.

Name	Start Date	Phone	
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Before starting litter picking volunteers should:

- Have the correct Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – eg Thick gloves, hi-viz vest, sensible footwear, weather appropriate clothing etc.
- Have the correct equipment – eg Litter grabbers, plastic bags, and know how to use the equipment.
- Consider all the risks and hazards in the work area.
- Know the work area and how to report incidents or hazardous or unidentified waste, where to get first aid and where to deposit bags of waste in an appropriate bin.

The table below should be used to score the risks in the **Risk Assessment Table**.

Likelihood (a)		Severity (b)		Magnitude = a x b
Certain	5	Fatality	6	2 x 3 = 6 le LOW RISK
Probable	4	Serious Disablement	5	
Even Chance	3	Sprain, Major Cuts/Bruises	4	High Risk = 21 to 30
Possible	2	Minor Cut/Strain	3	Medium Risk = 11 to 20
Unlikely	1	Minor Bruises/Grazes	2	Low Risk = 2 to 10

Risk Assessment Table

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROLS	MEASURES TO REDUCE EFFECT IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT	Score	Risk
Broken glass, sharp/rusty edges	Cuts & infections	<input type="checkbox"/> Strong gloves to be worn at all times. <input type="checkbox"/> Use litter grabbers to pick up sharp litter. <input type="checkbox"/> All participants should have up to date tetanus protection.	Seek medical attention where appropriate. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor.	4	Low
Needles	Cuts & infections	<input type="checkbox"/> Report to council for removal.	Seek medical attention where appropriate.	3	Low
Heavy/awkward to handle rubbish	Pulled muscles & strains	<input type="checkbox"/> If too heavy to handle leave the object in place and report it to the council for removal.	Stop immediately if suffering any pain or discomfort. Seek medical attention if the ill effects persist.	6	Low
Batteries, asbestos & miscellaneous chemicals	Potentially dangerous depending on condition	<input type="checkbox"/> Report to the council for disposal.	Seek medical attention if exposed to pesticides, insecticides or other chemicals – record any label details.	10	Low
Ground conditions	Sprains, muscle damage & broken bones.	<input type="checkbox"/> Avoid dangerous areas and choose the safest possible route over difficult ground. <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers should wear suitable footwear.	Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. Seek medical attention for any serious cuts, bruises or strains.	6	Low
Highways vehicles, bicycles, plant and machinery	Collision with moving traffic.	<input type="checkbox"/> Avoid close proximity to traffic if possible. <input type="checkbox"/> Stay off the roadway where practical. <input type="checkbox"/> Be alert to the potential presence of agricultural machinery. <input type="checkbox"/> Wear high visibility. <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise special caution where the speed limit is 40mph or over. <input type="checkbox"/> Be aware of the vehicles around you during the litter pick. <input type="checkbox"/> Keep a look out. Listen for traffic	Seek medical attention in the event of injury.	20	Med

Working alone	Unexpected injury or illness	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that others are aware of your schedule and working area <input type="checkbox"/> Keep mobile phone to hand phone.	Seek medical attention following any injury.	5	Low
Animals – Domestic, wild & farm	Lymes Disease carried by animal ticks & bites/scratches from animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Wear appropriate clothing. <input type="checkbox"/> Beware of loose dogs. <input type="checkbox"/> 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.	5	Low
Waterside diseases	Weil's Disease from rat's urine	<input type="checkbox"/> Do not touch dead animals. <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid getting hands wet in ponds or streams.	Seek medical attention where appropriate. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor	5	Low
Dog faeces	Toxocara canis	<input type="checkbox"/> Do not touch dog faeces	Thoroughly wash your hands. Seek medical attention where appropriate.	20	Med
Weather Eg Thunder storms	Various health issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Cease work in inappropriate conditions.		15	Med
Steep slopes and ditches	Falls leading to sprains, muscle damage & broken bones.	<input type="checkbox"/> Take special care on uneven ground. <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid stepping into ditches <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid steep slopes	Seek medical attention where appropriate.	6	Low
Electric fences	Electrocution	<input type="checkbox"/> Do not touch electric fences	Seek medical attention where appropriate.	2	Low

Water, marshes, bogs	Hypothermia, drowning.	<input type="checkbox"/> Avoid litter picking in and around bodies of water <input type="checkbox"/> Shower and change into warm dry clothing if immersed. <input type="checkbox"/> Keep away from marshes and bogs	Seek medical attention where appropriate.	5	Low
Hedges, fences, walls, ditches		<input type="checkbox"/> Take care when climbing stiles particularly in wet weather. <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid climbing walls, ditches and fences.		8	Low
Equipment		<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers should be familiar with the equipment provided <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate protection should be used. <input type="checkbox"/> Location of first aid kit should be noted.	Obtain medical attention in the event of injury.	2	Low
Trees, shrubs	Trips, cuts & eye pokes	<input type="checkbox"/> Be aware of low hanging branches and exposed tree and shrub roots.	Obtain medical attention in the event of injury.	5	Low
Irritants, dangerous plants	Poisoning, skin irritations or allergic reactions	<input type="checkbox"/> Wear the gloves provided. <input type="checkbox"/> Beware of dangerous plants and possible adverse reactions.	Seek medical attention for unusual or suspicious symptoms after contact with vegetation.	5	Low

On Completion of the Litter Pick Ensure:

- Volunteers wash their hands thoroughly as soon as possible after the litter pick and before taking any food or drink.
- All volunteers have reported back.
- All rubbish collected has been disposed of in appropriate bins.