

Risk Assessment: Community Clean Up.

Organiser:	.	Location:	<i>Various locations across district.</i>
Completed by:	.	Risk rating:	Low

<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Community led clean-up of a designated area by volunteers, with some equipment provided by Test Valley Borough Council.</p>	<p>Additional assessments/ actions required (prerequisites):</p> <p>All volunteers to sign attendance form to confirm they have read, fully understood, and will abide by the <i>control measures</i>. Group leader will be responsible for ensuring this is the case, or where additional assistance is required, e.g. English is not their first language. Group Leader to keep a copy of the attendance form.</p> <p>It is recommended that mobile phones, hand gel and a first aid kit is carried.</p> <p>A survey of the areas which are proposed to be included in the community clean up should be undertaken by the Group Leader - areas of concern to be noted below and communicated to volunteers before activities commence.</p> <p>Volunteers need to confirm if they are not able bodied, e.g. have poor balance, so tasks can be properly allocated by Group Leader.</p> <p>Appropriate footwear and clothing to be worn by volunteers (communicate).</p> <p>Accidents/ incidents to be reported to the Group Leader, so first aid/ assistance can be given as necessary.</p> <p>Tools and equipment, e.g. litter picker, to be demonstrated to those who not used them before.</p> <p>Confirm location of nearest toilet facilities.</p>
<p>Persons at Risk:</p> <p>Volunteer litter pickers.</p>	
<p>Dates of assessment:</p> <p>May 2026</p>	
<p>Review date:</p> <p>Document to be reviewed before every community clean up activity.</p>	
<p>Notes on any areas of concern from site survey or additional controls to be communicated to volunteers:</p>	

No	Component of Task/ Activity	Hazard(s)	Nos. at Risk	Consequence	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating		
						L	S	Risk
1	All activities which are part of the community clean up.	Volunteer lack of hazard awareness regarding risks associated with the activity. Volunteers unfamiliar with the equipment to be used. Broken glass/ sharp items. Uneven terrain	1+	Slip, trip and fall injuries; injury (cuts and bruising)	All volunteers to sign the attendance sheet and review the risk assessment/ control measures. Volunteers will ordinarily be paired up to work together. Group leader (or designated person) to monitor the work of volunteers and assist as necessary. Litter picks to be used for most items and placed into bags.	1	2	Low
2	Work in close proximity to fields with animals in.	Bites or attack from domestic, farm animals or insects.	1+	Injury from bites or being kicked/ trampled by animal(s). Lyme disease (ticks), Stings (wasps)	Do not enter areas where farm animals are fenced in. Avoid contact with dogs you are not familiar with. Avoid contact with vermin. Long trousers / sleeves worn in long grass. Animal nests to be avoided. Group leader to monitor the work of volunteers and assist as necessary.	2	3	Low
3	Manual handling	Lifting of heavy or awkward shaped objects which is beyond individual capability.	1+	Muscular strains and sprains.	Only handle objects within personal capability – Report heavy or large items to TVBC for collection. Break down items into smaller (more manageable) loads if possible. Use correct lifting technic: get close to object; keep legs mean at start of lift; back straight.	1	3	Low
4	Hazardous substances: chemicals, paints, drums.	Toxic or respiratory exposure health hazardous.	1+	Burns through skin contact, inhalation or ingestion	Unknown substances or items to be left alone. Refer to the Group Leader for actions to be decided. Item can be arranged for removal by TVBC.	1	4	Low

5	Work on slopes, areas with poor ground conditions, ditches.	Poor footing. Increased chances of slips, trips and falls.	1+	Injuries from slips trips and falls: bruising, strains, fall injuries.	The survey before activities start will identify areas unsuitable to work on, taking into account weather conditions. Volunteers to be given clear instructions when they are working close to unsuitable areas. Group leader (or designated person) to monitor the work of volunteers and assist as necessary. Volunteers to be shown safest routes when work areas are on two or more levels, e.g. avoid wet steep slopes.	1	3	Low
6	Work close to water	Poor footing. Potential to fall into water.	1+	Drowning. Getting wet and hypothermia. Wet feet.	Survey to identify areas of concern. Good practice to work in pairs. Volunteers to wear appropriate footwear. Group leader (or designated person) to monitor the work of volunteers and assist as necessary.	1	4	Low
7	Activities close to an Electric fence(s)	Electric shock from touching electric fence.	1+	Shock from contact.	If there is a potential electric fence near to work activity always assume it is on. Fence to be highlighted to all the volunteers. Volunteers to work in pairs.	1	2	Low
8	Activities close to a highway	Moving road vehicles;	1+	Struck by a moving vehicle. Stuck by item thrown from moving vehicle. Serious injury possible.	Children should not take part in activities close to a highway. Hi-vis clothing to be worn at all times. Keep out of the road. Do not work on verges of roads where the speed limit is 40mph or above. Instructions given to adults who may work on the verge next to a road. If there are concerns about speeding vehicles, or because of the actions of drivers stop activities.	1	5	Low
9	Work on or near to paths/ pavements/ cycle routes.	Cyclists; joggers; electric scooters.	1+	Struck by bicycle or jogger.	Awareness of other users, e.g. bikes or e-scooters.	1	3	Low

					Survey by the Group Leaders should identify who busy the path/ pavement is likely to be. Instructions given to volunteers at start of activities.			
10	Trees, shrubs, dangerous plants.	Low hanging branches. Potentially irritant hedges/ plants. Awareness of thorny/ prickly plants e.g. <i>pyracantha</i> .	1+	Injury from branches or thorns.	Suitable gloves to be worn if activities have to take place close to thorny bushes/ plants. Good hand hygiene to be followed. Long sleeves / trousers advised.	1	3	Low
11	Handing of clinical waste, syringes, unknown waste items.	Infection from blood borne disease.	1+	Biological: Weils disease, Hepatitis B& C, tetanus.	Unknown substances or items to be left alone. Refer to the Group Leader for actions to be decided. Item can be arranged for removal by TVBC.	1	4	Low
12	All activities	Weather conditions	2+	Inclement weather or excessive heat.	Weather forecast to be reviewed before the day of activities. Inform volunteers of the clothing they are likely to require. If severe weather is expected cancel the activities. If hot weather is forecast remind volunteers that sun cream and water may be required. Activities may need to be cut short in high temperatures to stop fatigue or heat stroke.	2	3	Med

A 5x5 risk evaluation matrix has been used when scoring this risk assessment.
Young children, Pregnant and new mothers should not carry out litter picking.

Group Leader Name:	Signature:	Date:
Reviewers Name:	Signature:	Date: