



# The Big Bear Clean Up Litter Pick Risk Assessment

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Assessment carried out by \_\_\_\_\_

| Hazard   | Risk   | Controls  | Measures to reduce effect in the result of an accident  | Magnitude risk level (Low, medium or high) |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Broken glass, sharp/rusty edges                  | Cuts & infections                            | 1. Strong gloves to be worn at all times.<br>2. Use litter grabbers to pick up sharp litter, if safe to do so.<br>3. All participants should have up to date tetanus protection.  | 1. Seek medical attention where appropriate.<br>2. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor.                        |  |
| Needles  | Cuts & infections                            | 1. Leave alone & report to event organiser to mark the location of needles on sketch/map. The organiser to report to council for removal.   | Seek medical attention if contact with needle occurs.   |  |
| Heavy/awkward to handle rubbish                  | Pulled muscles & strains                     | 1. Extreme care to be taken, use good lifting practices and share the load with an appropriate number of people.<br>2. If too heavy to handle leave the object in place and report it to the organiser to arrange removal by the council. | 1. Stop immediately if suffering any pain or discomfort.<br>2. Seek medical attention if the ill effects persist.                                   |  |
| Batteries, asbestos & miscellaneous chemicals    | Potentially dangerous depending on condition | 1. Do not approach or remove any potentially hazardous waste.<br>2. Report to the council for disposal.   | Seek medical attention if exposed to pesticides, insecticides or other chemicals – record any label details.  |  |
| Ground conditions                                | Sprains, muscle damage & broken bones.       | 1. Avoid dangerous areas and choose the safest possible route over difficult ground.<br>2. Instruct volunteers to wear suitable footwear.   | 1. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor.<br>2. Seek medical attention for any serious cuts, bruises or strains. |  |
| Highways vehicles, bicycles, plant and machinery | Collision with moving traffic.               | 1. Avoid close proximity to traffic if possible.<br>2. Stay off the highway.<br>3. Be alert to the potential presence of agricultural machinery.<br>4. Wear high visibility clothing if necessary.  | Seek medical attention in the event of injury.  |  |

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|                                 |  |   |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
|                                 |  | 5. Do not work on the roadside if the speed limit is 30mph or over.<br>6. Be aware of the vehicles around you during the litter pick.<br>7. Keep a look out.<br>8. Children should not work by a road-side  |  |  |
| People, lone working            | Physical or verbal assault   | 1. Be aware of aggressive and difficult people.<br>2. Withdraw rather than face conflict.<br>3. Do not work out of sight of others in the group.<br>4. Organiser/section leader to have mobile phone.<br>5. Keep together and stay off private property.<br>6. Children or any vulnerable people should never be left to work alone. Ensure that they stay with their parents/guardians/carers. | Seek medical attention following any assault / injury.   |  |
| Animals – Domestic, wild & farm | Lymes Disease carried by animal ticks & bites/scratches from animals | 1. Wear appropriate clothing.<br>2. Beware of loose dogs.<br>3. Avoid contact with animals. Avoid contact with animal faeces.   | 1. Seek medical attention as soon as possible after being bitten or scratched.<br>2. Wash hands immediately after contact with faeces.<br>3. Avoid touching eyes or mouth. |  |
| Waterside diseases              | Weil's disease from rat's urine                                      | 1. Wear gloves.<br>2. Do not touch dead animals.<br>3. Cover any cuts or sores with a waterproof plaster before carrying out a litter pick.<br>4. Avoid getting hands wet in rivers, ponds or canals.   | 1. Seek medical attention where appropriate.<br>2. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor  |  |
| Dog faeces                      | <i>Toxocara canis</i>  | 1. Do not touch dog faeces.   | 1. Thoroughly wash your hands.<br>2. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor.<br>3. Seek medical attention where appropriate.             |  |

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| Weather, e.g.<br>Thunder storms   | Various health<br>issues   | 1. Cease work in inappropriate conditions.<br>2. Avoid working in extreme conditions.<br>3. Dress for conditions & carry additional clothing.<br>4. In the event of extreme weather conditions the litter pick should be postponed or abandoned   | Seek medical attention<br>where appropriate.        |  |
| Cliffs and, steep<br>slopes       | Falls leading to<br>sprains,<br>muscle damage &<br>broken bones.                     | 1. Instruct volunteers to stay away from these areas.<br>2. Avoid picking on or close to the edge of steep slopes, cliffs etc and below unstable riverbanks & slopes. Take weather conditions and possible weather changes into account.<br>3. Seek medical treatment in the event of injury.             | Seek medical attention<br>where appropriate.        |  |
| Electric fences                   | Electrocution  | 1. Always assume electric fences are live.<br>2. Warn volunteers not to touch electric fences   | Seek medical attention<br>where appropriate.        |  |
| Water, marshes,<br>bogs           | Hypothermia,<br>drowning.  | 1. Avoid banks, especially if they appear unstable. Always work in pairs if close to water.<br>2. Shower and change into warm dry clothing if immersed.<br>3. Never allow children to work in these areas.<br>4. Adults should be cautious & non-swimmer must not litter pick near water                  | Seek medical attention<br>where appropriate.        |  |
| Hedges, fences,<br>walls, ditches | Falls leading to<br>sprains, muscle<br>damage & broken<br>bones.                     | 1. Take care when climbing stiles particularly in wet weather.<br>2. Avoid climbing walls, ditches and fences.<br>3. Stay within the nominated location.  | Obtain medical attention in<br>the event of injury. |  |
| Tools, equipment                  | Accidents leading<br>to cuts, broken<br>flesh, broken<br>bones and other<br>injuries | 1. Team to be shown how to use equipment if appropriate.<br>2. Allow sufficient working area for the correct and safe use of the tool.<br>3. Use appropriate protection<br>4. First aid training.<br>5. Have first aid kit available.<br>6. Volunteers must use the equipment provided and as instructed. | Obtain medical attention in<br>the event of injury. |  |



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| Trees, shrubs               | Trips, cuts & eye pokes                           | 1. Be alert to the risks and keep a look out for hazards.<br>2. Be aware of low hanging branches and exposed tree and shrub roots.                    | Obtain medical attention in the event of injury.  |  |
| Irritants, dangerous plants | Poisoning, skin irritations or allergic reactions | 1. Wear the gloves provided.<br>2. Beware of dangerous plants and possible adverse reactions.<br>3. Wash thoroughly on completion of such operations. | Seek medical attention for unusual or suspicious symptoms after contact with vegetation or irritants. |  |

| Likelihood (a) |   | Severity (b)               |   | Magnitude = a x b               |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Certain        | 5 | Fatality                   | 6 | 2 x 3 = 6<br>ie <b>LOW RISK</b> |
| 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              |