

Trafford Wildlife Litterpicking Risk Assessment

LOCATION Ashton on Mersey, Bridgewater Canal, Brookheyes, Brooklands, Carrington, Carrington Moss, Partington, Priory Gardens, Sale, Sale Moor, Sale Water Park, Timperley & surrounding areas.	Risk Assessed BY: Geoff Densham TEL. NO. 07769943071
DATE RISK ASSESSMENT PREPARED: 11.03.23	DATE RISK ASSESSMENT LAST UPDATED: 04.02.26

Introduction: The Risk Assessment is read by all volunteers and they must confirm understood. Adults supervising children (under 18) to confirm on their behalf. The Task Leader should identify themselves to all volunteers. Volunteers participate in an event entirely at their own risk, as Trafford Wildlife is not a legal entity. Ensure the risk assessment and area to be covered is reviewed by the Task Leader before every event in case there are any changes to the area. Volunteers to register attendance in advance with own and emergency mobile phone numbers.

HAZARDS	RISK LEVEL (High, Medium, Low)	ACTION - RISK REDUCTION MEASURES	POST-ACTION RISK LEVEL
Risk of health issues from manual handling	Medium	-Demonstrate use of litter picker to new volunteers. Use litter picker to gather all litter. Bags should be filled to a level which is comfortable to carry and tied at the top to prevent spillage when full. NOx cylinders to be bagged. Wear protective gloves.	Low
Risk of trips/slips/falls due to trailing vegetation, steep slopes, tree roots, ditches muddy and uneven ground, steps, bridges and other access structures	High	-Suitable supportive footwear (e.g. gumboots, walking boots) must be worn, no sandals. Avoid working on slopes when possible. Do not work on Mersey river slopes. Be aware of uneven ground. Use litter picker tip to probe for unseen hazards	Medium
Risk of health issues from bushes and trees	Medium	-These areas are best cleared by persons wearing eye protection (goggles or spectacles with side protection). Always check your path of entry to litter under trees/bushes before reaching in, especially at eye level. When reaching into bushes, place litter bag on ground, use one arm to hold litter picker and the other to raise in front of your face for protection, and to push branches away. Alternatively, use rake to extend reach.	Low
Contraction or spread of CV19 or other infection. (This RA will be subject to change as government rules vary.)	Medium	-Not to come if exhibiting any CV19 type symptoms. -Not to come if someone if your household has CV19 type symptoms.	Low
Risk of hypothermia, drowning in pools, risk of feet sinking and getting stuck in boggy areas	Medium	-Area should not be accessed during times of high water levels. Work with a partner. Do not lean over or enter water. Children (under 18 years) must be accompanied and supervised at all times by an adult who can swim. No under fours allowed.	Low
Risk of health issues from strains, cuts, infections, diseases due to hazardous material (needles, sharp items, broken glass, chemicals, animal faeces, bodily products, dead animals)	Medium	-For knives ring GMP on 101 and depending on the response await their arrival or if not possible then take photos (close & distant) of the location (What3words) and (without touching) single bag a sheathed knife and double bag an unsheathed knife and take to team leader (with photos) who will await collection by GMP (or remove to GMP Talbot Road, Stretford). For needles and other small sharps drop them into an abandoned lager/beer can, step on and collapse the ring pull end of the can so that the needle is sealed in and then dispose of in litter bag. For broken glass collect into a newspaper, abandoned container or separate bag before placing in litter bag. Any items that cannot be picked report to One Trafford Partnership with photo and location map at OneTraffordLitterBagCollection@amey.co.uk	Low
Contraction of water-borne		-Participants if they feel ill enough to warrant visiting doctor,	

diseases, particularly from still water including E coli, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis C , Cryptosporidiosis & Botulism. Contraction of soil-borne diseases such as tetanus or other diseases associated with dog faeces etc. Contraction of insect born diseases including Lyme's.	Medium	<p>should mention have had contact with dirty water/soil/dog faeces/wild animals/vegetation recently.</p> <p>-Volunteers to have adequate tetanus cover.</p> <p>-Appropriate gloves to be worn for tasks.</p> <p>-Hand washing facilities/anti-bacterial rub should be used before eating, smoking and when leaving area.</p> <p>Remove ticks with an approved tick removal tool. Monitor entry point for signs of infection and if found consult a medical practitioner.</p>	Low
Risk from traffic	Medium	-Fluorescent tabards provided for all volunteers. Work with a partner and keep in sight of team mates. Take care near traffic, crossing roads etc and picking up litter from road verges; stay within your designated area. Ensure area of litterpick and access is appropriate to mobility of volunteers.	Low
Risk due to changeable and extreme weather conditions including sun, rain, wind, and low temperatures etc. Risk of flying debris/dust.	Low	-Assessment of potential conditions should be made prior to working in area. Appropriate clothing should be worn to protect from elements. If wind gust speed is forecast to exceed 35mph then cancel event.	Low
Risk of minor injury and failure to communicate	Medium	The team leader will have a small first aid kit. There may be a number of assistant team leaders assigned individual litter picking areas. The assistant team leaders must have a mobile phone. The team leader needs to be able to communicate with the assistant team leaders in case of sudden inclement weather, changes in instructions, etc. The assistant team leaders will then inform the remainder of that team. Litterpicks should last no more than two hours. Ensure all volunteers know to report back to the team leader by a certain time.	Low