

## Risk assessment for : The Rivers Trust



<b>Risk assessment name</b>	SPRING 2021 PPP_Riverside Litter Picking & Disposal- Groups NEW to Litter Picking	<b>Assessment type</b>	 General
<b>Assessor name</b>	David Johnson	<b>Affected site(s)</b>	The Rivers Trust (WR8 0AX)
<b>Assessment date</b>	08/03/2021	<b>Review period</b>	Annually
<b>Approved by</b>	David Johnson	<b>Review date</b>	08/03/2022
<b>Approved date</b>	08/03/2021	<b>Reference</b>	THE1101966

Workspace(s)	Description
 Access / Egress  Outside Area	This Risk Assessment is generic to cover riverside litter picking activities for new community groups wishing to collect litter and log data for the PPP project . They are covered under their existing organisation's insurance insurance. Events will need a further risk assessment as will activities on the water or requiring wading.

Hazard	Who could be harmed and how?	Existing controls	Risk rating (L x S)
 <p>Adverse Weather. Risk of injury due to lightning strikes, high winds/heavy rain, snow and ice.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? May cause fatigue, shivering, dehydration, musculoskeletal injuries, fatalities and Burns.</p>	<p> <b>Activity is Postponed In Adverse Weather Conditions.</b> Activity shall be postponed if weather conditions endanger health or safety and /or would be uncomfortable. Covered in Volunteer training.</p> <p> <b>Thermal Comfort . Wear adequate warm and waterproof clothing in cold weather. And seek shade in hot weather .</b> Thermal comfort could include appropriate gloves, jacket, trousers, boots as required. Sun hats and sun cream in hot weather. Adequate drinks ,Covered in Volunteer training</p>	<p> <b>Frequent Breaks Taken, Agreed by group leader</b> Volunteers only need to undertake activity for as long as is comfortable. Have a break as required and agreed amongst groups .</p> <p> <b>Wear Sturdy Footwear. .</b> Sturdy shoes or boots must be worn. No sandals or flip flops in summer. Please provide your own</p> <p>4 x 7</p> <p> 28</p> <p>Medium</p>

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 <p>Biological Hazard :Risk of ill health due to ticks and fleas Risk of ill health due to flea bites and from Lyme disease from ticks.</p>	<p>All Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? Potential for serious illness from Lyme disease from ticks, Infection and discomfort from flea bites</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p><b>Long sleeve and trousers should be worn.</b> Training to include advice to wear clothing to cover arms and legs</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p><b>Lyme disease Training Given</b> Volunteers are trained to understand risk and sources sources of Lyme disease and when to seek medical attention as a result of a tick bite .</p> </div> </div>	<p>4 x 7</p>  <p>28</p> <p>Medium</p>
 <p>COVID-19 (Coronavirus Infection) Risk of ill health due to exposure to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)</p>	<p>All volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? Risk of exposure to COVID 19 . Reduced because open air activity but social distancing and hygiene procedures must be applied or volunteers could be exposed and run the risk of serious illness</p>	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; gap: 10px;"> <div>  <p><b>Equipment should be sanitised before and after use</b> As a minimum litter pickers and other equipment, should be sanitised before and after use. The group should follow hygiene measures from their own organisation .</p> </div> <div>  <p><b>Gloves must not be shred and will not be provided by RT at this stage</b> Protective gloves must be worn for this activity. Ordinarily the Rivers Trust would provide these but due to the COVID risk from sharing gloves , Volunteers must provide their own at the present time.</p> </div> <div>  <p><b>Groups will follow COVID regulations from their parent organisation and adhere to Government regulations at all times.</b> Volunteer leaders must ensure the group follows the their organisations current COVID guidance e.g.as regards Groups of 6, Social distancing and hygiene measures . These will change over time and it is the responsibility of the group leader to ensure this is followed.</p> </div> </div>	<p>4 x 9</p>  <p>36</p> <p>High</p>

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Hazard	Who could be harmed and how?	Existing controls	Risk rating (L x S)
 <p>Disposing Of Broken Glass. Potential for contact with broken glass. Spread of illness/bacteria.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? Risk of laceration from broken glass.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;">  <p><b>Broken Glass</b> Do not pick up Broken glass or / only with litter picker and put straight into bin only not into bags. Do not weigh</p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;">  <p><b>Groups to have their own Risk Assessment and insurance. This RA is provided for reference only by The Rivers Trust .</b> Groups have their own Risk assessment and insurance . This risk Assessment from The Rivers Trust is for reference. Training can be provided if required</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="width: 48%;">  <p><b>Litter Picker Tongs Provided And Used.</b> Litter pickers will be provided by The Rivers Trust and used for picking up litter</p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;">  <p><b>Protective Gloves must be worn .</b> Gloves to be worn at all times. Volunteer must currently provide their own and not share gloves due to COVID risk . Covered in Volunteer training</p> </div> </div>	<p>5 x 4</p>  <p>20</p> <p>Medium</p>
 <p>Giant Hogweed and Nettles The sap of the Giant Hogweed contains phototoxic chemicals (known as furanocoumarins) and causes phytophotodermatitis in humans resulting in blisters &amp; scars and blind ness if touches eyes. Nettles cause skin irritation which is usually mild but can be painful if significant amount</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? Severs blisters and burns from Giant Hogweed, possible blindness if touch eyes . Rash from Nettle stings</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;">  <p><b>Site Surveyed for Giant Hogweed before starting litter pick</b> Volunteers advised to check site for Giant Hogweeds for beginning litter pick and avoid or adjust location if any is present</p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;">  <p><b>Volunteer leader to know where closest hand washing facility is</b> Volunteers should have access to hand washing location in the event of contact</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="width: 48%;">  <p><b>Volunteers trained to recognise and avoid Giant Hogweed</b> Volunteers trained to recognise and avoid Giant Hogweed. Trained to assess the area and to avoid trips e.g around netter patches. Advised what to do if contact with Giant Hogweed does occur</p> </div> </div>	<p>3 x 8</p>  <p>24</p> <p>Medium</p>

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Hazard	Who could be harmed and how?	Existing controls	Risk rating (L x S)
 <p>Hazardous Waste. Contamination from the waste.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? May cause short or long term ill-health.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p><b>Clothing to cover arms and legs should be worn .</b></p> <p>All volunteers should have arms and legs covered to reduce risk of harm or injury from sharp objects</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p><b>Risk Assessment, Insurance and Appropriate training provided</b></p> <p>Risk assessment, training and insurance provided by The Rivers Trust</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p><b>Use suitable Waste Disposal Bins.</b></p> <p>Waste is disposed of appropriately in or bagged and near bins as agreed with council or other collection partner.</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p><b>Volunteers advised not to handle hazardous waste including containers filled with unknown substances</b></p> <p>Induction includes training to not handle hazardous waste in containers including dog waste bags.</p> </div> </div>	<p>4 x 6</p>  <p>24</p> <p>Medium</p>
 <p>Hypodermic needles and sharps. Puncture Wounds And Exposure To Infections Due To Incorrect Disposal Or Use.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? May cause bleeding, lacerations or short/long term ill-health.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p><b>Litter Picker Tongs provided and used</b></p> <p>Litter pickers will be provided by existing organisation or by Rivers Trust . Tongs should be used for picking up any litter and as far as possible for sorting and identifying litter.</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p><b>Protective gloves should be worn at all times . Volunteers to provide their own</b></p> <p>Gloves should be worn at all times and especially for any sorting. Volunteers advised not to pick up any sharps whatsoever but to leave in situ and report to council/ waste removal partner. Can take photo and send in with location if they wish . Volunteers to provide their own gloves.</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p><b>Wear Sturdy Footwear.</b></p> <p>Sturdy shoes or boots must be worn. No sandals or flip flops in summer. Please provide your own</p> </div> </div>	<p>4 x 7</p>  <p>28</p> <p>Medium</p>

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Hazard	Who could be harmed and how?	Existing controls	Risk rating (L x S)
 <p>Leptospirosis Risk of ill health &amp; disease due to exposure to infectious agents/pathogens in contaminated water.</p>	<p>All Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? Severe illness</p>	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;">  <p><b>Gloves Worn to protect hands</b> Volunteers trained to wear gloves at all times to protect skin from infection. Volunteers will currently need to provide their own gloves due to COVID risk and must not share.</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  <p><b>Volunteers informed of Leptospirosis hazard and the symptoms to look out for</b> Volunteers receive training in awareness of exposure risk of Leptospirosis, the symptoms to be aware of, and to seek medical appointment if required</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  <p><b>Volunteers trained to cover cuts</b> Volunteers trained to check hands and skin for cuts before activity. Cover cuts with plasters and long sleeved clothing</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  <p><b>Wash hands after activity</b> Volunteers advised to wash hands before eating and after activity</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  <p><b>Wear sturdy shoes</b> Sturdy shoes to cover and protect feet should be worn</p> </div> </div>	<p>4 x 7</p>  <p>28</p> <p>Medium</p>
 <p>Livestock Cattle, Konik ponies and sheep maybe grazing freely in some areas</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? Being pushed over, charged, trampled, injured by horns</p>	 <p><b>Volunteers trained to avoid livestock areas</b> Volunteers trained to avoid areas with livestock. Given advice to move slowly and carefully if livestock approach, and remove themselves from the area.</p>	<p>2 x 9</p>  <p>18</p> <p>Medium</p>

Hazard	Who could be harmed and how?	Existing controls	Risk rating (L x S)
 <p>Lone Working Volunteers should avoid collecting litter alone</p>	<p>All staff</p> <p>Volunteers and or Staff</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? Due to the hazards, this activity should be conducted in a minimum group of two people</p>	 <p><b>Lone Working is Avoided, minimum 2 people</b> Lone Working Is avoided where possible. If volunteers want to litter pick alone, they are advised to carry mobile phone, only carry out in daylight and to leave planned route and timing with a contact . In usual circumstances, minimum group size 2 people.</p>	<p>4 x 6</p>  <p>24</p> <p>Medium</p>
 <p>Manual Handling. Tall, awkward &amp; unwieldy loads that are difficult to lift, transport and handle.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? May cause musculoskeletal injuries such as upper and lower back disorders.</p>	 <p><b>Avoid Any Unnecessary Manual Handling.</b> Do not remove large heavy items but notify council or litter removal partner</p>  <p><b>Good Manual Handling Techniques/Postures Used.</b> If lifting litter in bags keep this low weight that is easily manageable. Volunteers to be reminded of good lifting technique but advised to minimise</p>  <p><b>Manual Handling Risk Assessment Carried Out.</b> An assessment of the manual handling risk has been carried out for the task.</p>  <p><b>Manual Handling Training</b> Volunteers are reminded of the need for safe manual handling if lifting litter bags . However, these should be kept to a very low weight.</p>	<p>5 x 5</p>  <p>25</p> <p>Medium</p>
 <p>Overhead Cables Risk of injury due to electric shock through contact or flashover.</p>	<p>All Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? ALL</p> <p>How? electric shock, mortality</p>	 <p><b>In normal circumstances use Standard length litter pickers</b> To remove possibility of contact between litter pickers and overhead cables, in usual circumstances, supply only standard litter pickers. If long handled pickers requested review site with volunteer group to mitigate</p>  <p><b>Volunteer receive training to avoid contact with overhead cables</b> Volunteers trained to avoid contact with overhead cables s</p>	<p>2 x 9</p>  <p>18</p> <p>Medium</p>

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Hazard	Who could be harmed and how?	Existing controls	Risk rating (L x S)
 <p>People Movement (Risk Of Slips, Trips &amp; Falls). Risk of injury due to a variety of access/egress hazards that can cause slips, trips &amp; falls.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? May cause broken bones, lacerations, grazes, musculoskeletal injuries, head and spinal injuries.</p>	 <p><b>KEEP 2m from RIVERSIDE and assess areas to Prevent Slips, Trips &amp; Falls. Stick to paths, grass areas wherever possible</b></p> <p>ALL VOLUNTERS SHOULD REMAIN 2m distance from RIVERSIDE. Areas to be assessed by group leader to reduce the risk of slips, trips &amp; falls</p>  <p><b>Wear Sturdy Footwear</b> Sturdy shoes or boots must be worn. No sandals or flip flops in summer. Please provide your own</p>	<p>5 x 5</p>  <p>25</p> <p>Medium</p>
 <p>Sharp objects. Inappropriate use and storage of implements could cause injuries such as cuts to hands and fingers.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? May cause lacerations and bleeding.</p>	 <p><b>Appropriate First Aid Kit Provided</b> First Aid kit provided by the Rivers Trust . For groups of +5 a group member should have First Aid training and we can support provision</p>  <p><b>Litter Picker Tongs Used.</b> Litter pickers will be provided by The Rivers Trust and should be used at all times for picking up litter</p>  <p><b>First Aid Needs Assessment Carried Out</b> Appropriate first aid facilities &amp; personnel provided as a result of a First Aid Needs Assessment.</p>  <p><b>Protective Gloves Must Be Worn. Volunteers to provide their own.</b> Protective Gloves must be worn at all times . Volunteers to provide their own</p>	<p>5 x 5</p>  <p>25</p> <p>Medium</p>

Hazard	Who could be harmed and how?	Existing controls	Risk rating (L x S)
 <p>Vehicle Movement. Risk of injury through coming into contact with vehicles and plant moving around the area.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? May cause fatalities, head and spinal injuries, Unconsciousness, broken bones, severe bleeding and bruising.</p>	<p> <b>Hi Visibility Clothing Must Be Worn</b> Hi Visibility Clothing Must be Worn and will be provided by RT with PPP LOGO</p> <p> <b>Litter picks should only take place in pedestrian areas</b> Litter picks should only take place in pedestrian areas</p> <p> <b>Undertake activity in daylight only</b> Only undertake activity in day light in suitable &amp; sufficient light conditions . Allow enough time for activity : do not start a litter pick close to sundown</p> <p> <b>Volunteers to Remain Vigilant of Moving Vehicles</b> Litter picks should take place place in pedestrian areas only . But if moving to litter pick site volunteers must be aware of their surroundings if near road or moving vehicles and take appropriate precautions near road or when crossing roads</p>	<p>3 x 9</p>  <p>27</p> <p>Medium</p>

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Hazard	Who could be harmed and how?	Existing controls	Risk rating (L x S)
 <p>Water Risk of drowning associated with activities close to or on water.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>How Many? All</p> <p>How? If safety measures not adhered to there is a risk of falling in to the water</p>	<p> <b>Dynamic Risk Assessment of Weather conditions</b> Volunteers trained to assess weather conditions and if river flow significantly raised or flooding is likely , do not start activity or abandon if necessary .</p> <p> <b>Lone Working Is Avoided.</b> Lone Working Is avoided where possible. If volunteers want to litter pick alone, they are advised to carry mobile phone, only carry out in daylight and to leave planned route and timing with a contact . In usual circumstances, minimum group size 2 people.</p> <p> <b>Reporting Procedures Followed</b> Any accidents / incidents should be reported to the existing organisation and the Rivers Trust should be informed. Volunteer leaders should know the timescale and procedure for this for their parent organisation.</p> <p> <b>Risk Assessment training for Volunteer Group leaders.</b> Volunteer group leaders to receive Risk Assessment training and disseminate to volunteers.</p> <p> <b>Weather Conditions Checked &amp; Planned For</b> Weather conditions are considered, planned for and suitable clothing and equipment worn. If weather conditions unsuitable , likely to cause health and safety issues do not go ahead with activity</p>	<p>3 x 9</p>  <p>27</p> <p>Medium</p>

## Further control measures

None required

**Operating procedures**

For this risk assessment which is for existing community groups to refer to :

We (RT) will need to ensure

- insurance cover is in place
- Risk assessment in place from parent organisation

This risk assessment is for reference .

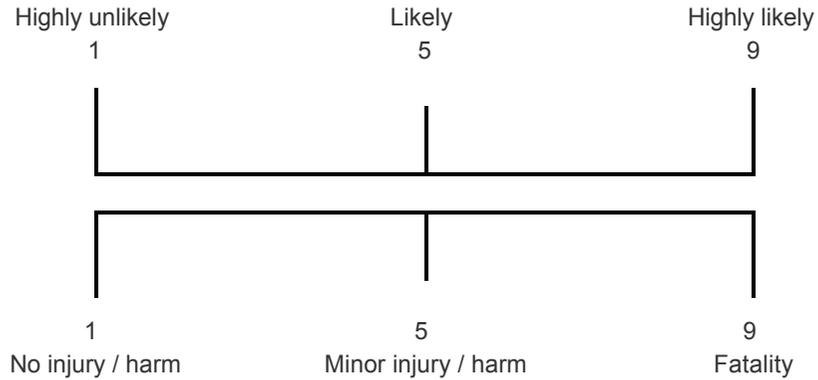
Volunteer leaders should receive training if required.

We will supply required equipment except gloves at this time due to COVID risk from sharing .

Groups should follow COVID guidance of their own organisation

**Risk rating explanation**

Risk ratings are calculated by considering the likelihood of an event occurring along with the severity of the potential consequence should an accident occur. After considering existing control measures, values are assigned to the likelihood and severity from the scales below and these figures multiplied to established the risk rating.



9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Probability

Severity

**What do your risk ratings mean?**

- Risk is categorised as LOW: Look to reduce risk if practicable
- Risk has been categorised as MEDIUM: Begin to plan your action to reduce the risk immediately
- Risk has been categorised as HIGH: Immediate action required to reduce the risk

Assessor's signature: David Johnson

Approved by signature: David Johnson