

Site Risk Assessment Form

Task/Activity: Conservation work parties and guided walks
 Site location: Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve, Woods and Field
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Date: 27/3/2021

LOCAL HAZARDS APPROPRIATE TO THE SITE ON WHICH ACTIVITY IS TAKING PLACE
 Refer to page 5(Part1) of H&S support pack. Also consider volunteer's abilities.

Hazard	Possible outcome	Persons at risk	Risk level LowMedHigh	Control measures	Who is responsible?
Wooden steps, steep slopes, grassy slopes on route leading to work areas or on walk.	Slips, trips and falls	Volunteers/ walkers	Low	Briefing to anyone not familiar with the site. Verbal warning to be passed back from leader as steps are approached if steps are wet. In darkness all volunteers to carry torches	Nominated trained work party leader
Wooden steps, steep slopes, grassy slopes on route leading in work areas.	Slips, trips and falls	Volunteers	Low	Work to be stopped if raining heavily or ground very wet or icy. Briefing to anyone not familiar with the site. Check footwear is suitable for task/area of work. Verbal warnings not to try and reach litter or saplings where volunteer is not confident of footing. In darkness all volunteers to carry torches	Nominated trained work party leader
Dogs not on leads (in addition to the General generic risk assessment)	Many distract tool users, cause a fall or bite volunteers.	Volunteers/ walkers	Low	As per General generic risk assessment plus, if a dog is causing a problem politely request owner, if visible to control dog and remove from work area. If there is no means to control the dog, stop the work party and leave the area.	Nominated work party leader

Bramble, hawthorn, blackthorn and gorse in work area (in addition to "Handling cut material" in generic "Scrub, Vegetation clearance" in the generic risk assessments	Cuts/scratches	Volunteers	Medium	Publicity recommends long sleeves to be work Gloves provided. Volunteers to be advised to cover cuts and wounds, plasters available in 1 st Aid kit. Advice to be given to thoroughly wash scratches on return home.	Nominated work party leader
Falling branches	Injury if hit	Volunteers/ Walkers	Low	In woodland check for loose hanging branches above work area or walking route and avoid areas where there is a risk of branches falling.	Nominated work party leader
Working in a public area	Public entering work area may be at risk from cut material, slips, trips and falls	Public	Low	Work party leader(s) to wear hi-viz vests. Use of signage or barriers is impracticable. Volunteers will be asked to gather cut material in a single nearby location or bag immediately, to keep a look out for members of the public entering the area and direct them away from hazards. Paths will be kept clear and tools bags etc will be gathered in a single location to avoid a creating a trip hazard.	Nominated work party leader
Ticks	Lyme disease	Volunteers/ Walkers	Low	Advise of risk, symptoms to be aware of, NHS website. Reinforce message to wear long trousers and long sleeve shirts, tuck trouser bottoms into socks. Carry tick card, tick tools or tweezers in first aid kit. Emphasise this message if working in long grass or bracken particularly in spring though to autumns but ticks are present all year round.	Nominated trained work party leader

Bracken	Potential cancerous	Volunteers/ walkers in July/August only	Low	Check for loose clumps of spore on underside of leaf if intending to working in areas with mature bracken. DO NOT work if loose clumps are found. This should be very low likelihood on Troopers Hill as the management regime is for Bristol Parks to carry out two cuts a year of bracken before it matures, to weaken it.	Nominated trained work party leader.
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THESE HAZARDS MUST BE REASSESSED JUST BEFORE THE ACTIVITY TAKES PLACE.

Generic risk assessment forms applicable: General: Manual Handling: Tools Use

Activity risk assessment forms applicable: Litter Clearance; Scrub Clearance; Hedge Laying and Tree Pruning; Guided Walks and Talks
During Covid-19 when 6-person work parties are permitted the following protocol will be followed:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/documents/20182/3589896/Covid19+Group+Social+Dist+Vol+Protocol+-+29+March+2021.pdf>

NOTE: This form must be sent to the relevant Area Coordinator at least two weeks in advance of your planned activity for sign off.