

Rusper Parish Council - Litter Collection Risk Assessment

RISKS	MITIGATION
Safety Equipment	High-visibility clothing must be worn at all times whilst undertaking litter collection activities. Gloves and a litter-picking stick must also be used to avoid direct contact with litter. Volunteers should carry a fully charged mobile phone in case of emergency.
Close Contact with Litter and Potentially Dangerous Items	Gloves must be worn and litter-picking equipment used at all times. Dangerous items such as chemicals, asbestos, oil drums, gas cylinders, needles/sharps or unknown materials must not be handled. Such items should be left in place and reported to Rusper Parish Council for appropriate collection and disposal.
Lifting Heavy Items	If there is any doubt as to whether an item can be safely lifted or moved, it should be left and reported to Rusper Parish Council for collection. Volunteers should avoid lifting heavy or awkward objects without assistance.
Traffic	Volunteers should work at least 1.2 metres away from the highway wherever possible, using litter-picking equipment to reach litter safely. Work should be carried out facing oncoming traffic and only where visibility is good. Headphones or earpieces must not be worn so that volunteers remain alert to surrounding traffic and hazards. Roads with speed limits above 40mph should be avoided unless there is a suitable footway. Litter picking should ideally take place during quieter traffic periods, for example between 9.30am and 3.30pm.
Weather Conditions	Appropriate clothing should be worn for prevailing weather conditions. In hot weather, volunteers should protect against sun exposure by covering exposed skin and using sunscreen. Work must stop if visibility becomes impaired by heavy rain, fog, snow or similar conditions. Litter picking should not take place during high winds or severe weather conditions.
Risk of Accident or Injury	Volunteers working alone should ensure that another person knows thei