

FoTH Litter-pick – Health and Safety



Ref	Hazard	Mitigation
01	Aggressive dogs (it is a popular dog-walking area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid aggressive dogs. • Behave calmly toward dogs. • Engage positively with dog owners.
02	Contact with faeces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not pick up faeces except if it is enclosed in a bag. • If exposed faeces are found, warn other volunteers in the vicinity. • If faeces are accidentally touched, use hand sanitiser available at the base station.
03	Lifting heavy items causing musculo-skeletal injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large or heavy items of litter should be moved with caution. • Other volunteers should be asked to assist and a wheelbarrow will be available to move such items. • Items too large or heavy for a wheelbarrow should be left in place and notified to the coordinator.
04	Contact with hazardous chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any suspicious drums, materials or containers with contents not identifiable should be left untouched and notified to the coordinator.
05	Tripping over undergrowth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of where you are putting your feet and walk with caution through undergrowth.
06	Cuts from vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of sharp vegetation, e.g. brambles, in your vicinity and take care to avoid cuts. • Wear sturdy footwear and cover your arms and legs. • If you receive a cut, seek first aid at the base station.
07	Cuts from sharp items of litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not pick up items with bare hands. • Use tough gloves or a litter picker tool. • If you receive a cut, seek first aid at the base station.
08	Medical sharps causing cuts and possible infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers finding needles or syringes should not touch them, but immediately notify the coordinator who will arrange disposal. • A sharps bin will be available at the base station. • Any accidental piercing by syringe should be given first aid and then treated at a medical practice or A&E.
09	Road traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When working close to a road or crossing a road, be aware of traffic in your vicinity and take normal precautions to avoid vehicles.
10	Safeguarding – children and vulnerable adults in a public area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children and any vulnerable adults must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. • Anyone with concerns for the safety of a child or vulnerable adult should express them to the coordinator who will deal with them by following the FoTH Safeguarding Policy.

Notes:

- A base station will be manned by a member of FoTH who will brief the volunteers and coordinate the event.
- Volunteers should register themselves at the base station and be briefed before starting work.
- All issues should be referred to the coordinator who will deal with them and log them.
- The base station will have available:
 - Litter picking tools
 - Bin bags
 - Sharps bin
 - Wheelbarrow for moving heavy items
 - Drinking water
 - Hand sanitiser
 - First aid kit
- Nearest hospital with A&E:
Macclesfield District General Hospital
Victoria Road, Macclesfield, SK10 3BL
Phone: 01625 421000
- Environment Agency Pollution Hotline: 0800 807 060