

LITTER PICK ASSESSMENT

DATE OF PICK LOCATION	To enable professional removal of hazardous waste, bulky items etc. note the location of the item(s) and report to the District Council: Tel: 01263 516085; Email: ep@north-norfolk.gov.uk Online form: https://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/tasks/environmental-protection/report-fly-tipping/	
Hazards	Who Might be Harmed? How?	Mitigation Proposals
Ourselves! Are we suitably prepared? Are we dressed for the task? Are we alert and feeling up to the job?	Ourselves, fellow pickers or members of the public. Insufficient/inappropriate clothing impedes judgement – too hot, too wet, not visible enough. Feeling tired, rushed, unwell may affect judgement.	Ensure you feel alert and prepared for the activity. Wear high visibility clothing and gloves at all times. Wear appropriate garments, stout shoes and consider protection from the sun & rain. A phone might be useful..
Personal responsibility for sensible and safe working is paramount in all situations.	Ourselves, fellow pickers or members of the public. Accidents due to irresponsible actions.	Check your insurance, consider seeking cover if you wish.
Traffic hazards. Varying levels of vehicle activity. No authority to trespass off public areas and onto private land - even to collect rubbish!	Ourselves, fellow pickers or members of the public. Failing to see or hear traffic. Getting hit or causing vehicles to swerve / lose control / collide.	Litter pick one side of the road at a time, with the other side being picked on the return journey. Allow time to walk both sides. Don't dart too and fro across the road. Absolutely no road walking wearing iPods / radios.
Hazardous waste. There is always the possibility of encountering something unexpected and potentially lethal: Asbestos (board or friable material), gas bottles, unidentified cans, oil drums, clinical waste, syringes, poisons, insecticides. Fly-tipping may involve any number of these products, possibly concealed from immediate view.	Ourselves and fellow pickers. (Also a danger to others if we ignore the object).	These items (and fly tipping and anything else suspicious) should not be touched or picked up. Report to the District Council (see above)
Heavy and large hazards. Bulky items such as fridges, washing machines, furniture, mattresses are increasingly fly-tipped onto verges, sometimes left partly on the roadway.	Ourselves, fellow pickers or members of the public. (Could be a real danger to others if we don't report a large obstructing object).	Identify object and consider whether it is practical to remove. Do not attempt to lift or move very bulky or heavy looking objects. Note the location of the item(s) and report to the District Council to enable professional removal. If it is an immediate hazard (to traffic or others) the Police should be contacted without delay on 101.
Sharp hazards. Needles, glass, tines, syringes, ragged edges (metal or otherwise).	Ourselves and fellow pickers. (Also a danger to others if we ignore the object).	Keep alert and wear gloves at all times. Report needles and syringes and do not touch. If in doubt, do not touch. Treat and cover any cuts, however minor.
Dirty hazards. Dog mess and similar matter.	Ourselves and fellow pickers primarily.	Keep alert and wear gloves at all times. Avoid touching. Avoid rubbing mouth and eyes. Wash hands and forearms before eating or drinking.
Natural hazards. Deep/fast water, rough ground, slippery banks. Giant Hogweed (waste ground & river banks). Weil's disease (from contaminated water).	Ourselves and fellow pickers primarily. Danger of injury, potential danger of death. Hogweed can be dangerous to people & animals. Weil's can be fatal – flu-like symptoms in 3-19 days.	Unlikely to encounter these hazards but keep alert and wear gloves at all times. Avoid touching. Avoid rubbing mouth and eyes. Wash hands and forearms before eating or drinking.