

Wretton Parish Council

Risk Assessment - Volunteer Litter Pick and Gardening

Subject	Risk(s) Identified	Risk Level	Management or Control of Risk	Review/Assess/Revise
Animals and insects	Bites or scratches	L	Wear appropriate clothing and gloves. Beware of dogs or livestock and avoid contact with them. Seek medical help if bitten or stung.	
Heavy objects	Strains	L	Do not lift or move heavy objects.	
Chemicals	Burns or poisoning	L	Do not approach or move containers which may contain or have contained chemicals. If exposed, record details and location of container and seek medical attention. Contact appropriate agency to deal with the container (Environment Agency (EA) or Norfolk County Council (NCC))	
Steep slope and ground in poor condition	Slips and Falls	L	Wear suitable footwear. Assess ground conditions and avoid working on steep slopes or poor ground conditions. Choose the safest route. In event of injury, seek medical attention and instruct others to avoid the area.	
Hedges, fences, walls and ditches or dykes	Slips and Falls	L	Do not climb walls or fences. Avoid entering ditches or dykes especially if excessively wet/muddy,	

This Risk Assessment was drawn up in April 2024 and approved on 13 May 2024 at the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Wretton Parish Council.
It was reviewed on 17 April 2026.

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Ponds, rivers, streams	Drowning	M	Do not work in ponds, rivers or streams. If working close to a water feature, never work alone and always work at least in pairs.	
Highway	Injury from passing vehicles	M	Wear high visibility clothing if working close to a road or on a highway. Be aware of passing traffic. Do not obstruct the road.	
Conflict with other people	Aggression or injury	L	Do not work alone. Always remain in close proximity to other volunteers. Withdraw from the area rather than face conflict.	
Refuse and litter	Injury from sharp items	L	Only collect general litter. Always wear gloves and use a litter picker. Do not collect discarded syringes or other medical waste – contact Norfolk County Council (NCC).	
Trees and Shrubs	Injury from low or falling branches	L	Be aware of branches and roots. Do not trim branches that cannot be reached from the ground without a ladder.	
Hollow maintenance and the collection of garden waste	Cuts and stings	L	Wear protective gloves and clothing. Use pointed and sharp tools with care. Be aware of other people in close proximity	

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