

# **Health and Safety Risk Assessment**

The level of risk of an activity is dependent upon two factors; the probability that harm will occur and the severity of that harm.

Litter picks are generally very safe, and it is unlikely that you will encounter any serious hazards or incidents – you will see that the points below are just common sense.

The Clean Coasts facilitator will communicate to participants the risks and explain the control measures in place before clearing any litter.

The Clean Coasts facilitator will be the safety officer for the cleanups therefore all incidents should be reported to them.

All participants will be advised on what equipment to use and what area they may clean up.

## **Before starting the clean up starts all participants will be advised the following:**

- Have the correct Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – e.g. Thick gloves, Nitrile disposable gloves Hi-Viz vest, sensible footwear, weather appropriate clothing etc.
- Have the correct equipment – e.g. Litter grabbers, plastic bags, dog waste bags, brush, shovel etc. and know how to use the equipment.
- Consider all the risks and hazards in the work area, e.g. hazardous waste, broken glass, dog waste, vomit, needles, condoms and roads/cycle ways, thorny bushes, low branches, uneven ground, hidden banking etc.
- Know the work area and how to report incidents or hazardous or unidentified waste, where to get first aid, meet on completion, deposit bags of waste and mark bags containing sharp material e.g. broken glass.



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## On completion of the clean up:

- Everyone washes their hands thoroughly as soon as possible after the litter pick and before taking any food or drink.
- Any wounds are redressed after cleaning and disinfecting if there has been any contact with water.
- Volunteers carry out a personal inspection for cuts etc.
- Report any hazardous items to the organizer.
- All volunteers have reported back to the meeting point, and all equipment is collected and signed in and Out if necessary.
- All rubbish for collection has been left in the arranged pick up site.
- Any bags containing sharp material, e.g. broken glass, are clearly identified.

Likelihood ↑	Very likely	Acceptable risk Medium 2	Unacceptable risk High 3	Unacceptable risk Extreme 5
	Likely	Acceptable risk Low 1	Acceptable risk Medium 2	Unacceptable risk High 3
	Unlikely	Acceptable risk Low 1	Acceptable risk Low 1	Acceptable risk Medium 2
What is the chance it will happen?		Minor	Moderate	Major
		Impact How serious is the risk? →		



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## **IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT**

- Seek medical attention where appropriate.
- Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor.
- If exposed to pesticides, insecticides or other chemicals record any label details.
- If unusual or suspicious symptoms after contact with vegetation contact your GP.

The level of risk of an activity is dependent upon two factors; the probability that harm will occur and the severity of that harm.

A health and safety risk assessment form should be completed for each risk associated with a planned activity so that risks and precautions are identified and understood.

This form should also be used as guidance for Health and Safety briefings prior to any projects/activities undertaken at beach area.

Please see following page for template form.



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# Health and Safety Risk Assessment

The following form should be completed for each risk associated with a planned activity so that risks and precautions are identified and understood. This form should also be used as guidance for Health and Safety briefings prior to any projects/activities undertaken at beach area.

**Name:** .....

**Location:** .....

**Activity:** .....

**Date:** .....

Have all members received a Health and Safety Briefing?		Is there clean water on site or are antiseptic wipes available?	
Where is the nearest phone?		Is there a throw line on site?	
Is there a First Aid kit available?		Is there a sharps box available? (for syringes, etc)	

What is the potential hazard?	Probability of risk High/Medium /Low	Severity of injury High/Medium /Low	What precautions could be taken to lessen the risk?	Is the risk acceptable, i.e. should the project/activity go ahead? YES / NO
E.g. Cuts and scrapes	E.g. Medium/Low	E.g. Low	All volunteers wear gloves. Provision of a sharps box for broken glass etc	YES



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