



Tarring Flood Action Group Risk Assessment
Activity: Community Gardening
Location: Fair Oak Triangle & street raised beds (*Not Raingardens*)

Date created: June 2025

Hazard	Who is at risk and how?	How are we controlling the risk?	Are further controls needed?	Actions
Lack of information & awareness	Volunteers unaware of safety procedures and requirements	All volunteers to be given a task briefing and safety talk covering potential risks and general information on the availability and use of equipment.	Prepare briefing material.	
Safeguarding children & vulnerable adults	Children & vulnerable adults	- All children and vulnerable adults to be supervised by a responsible adult (parent, carer, teacher, etc.) - No child to be out of sight of a responsible adult at any time. - No photographs of children are to be taken without responsible adult's consent		
Manual handling of heavy loads	Risk of injury/back pain when lifting or moving filled bags of weeds/trimmings/debris	- Volunteers instructed not to over-fill bags or try to carry heavy items beyond their capabilities. - Wheelbarrow or sack truck to be used to collect filled bags and move them to disposal point. - Volunteers advised of safe handling practice. - Volunteers with pre-existing conditions or injuries are not to lift bags or heavy items.	Provide Safe Manual Handling instruction.	
Collection of litter – toxic materials, syringes, broken glass		Volunteers should not attempt to deal with any suspicious materials.	Prior to start area to be pre-scanned for the presence of hazardous or	Any needles and syringes should be reported to https://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/keeping-

		- Any litter picking is to be carried out using litter pickers or appropriate garden tools. - Volunteers should wear protective gloves. - Any broken glass to be safely collected in a sturdy container and disposed of. - Volunteers must not to handle needles, syringes or other drug paraphernalia unless trained to do so. Drug litter Identity Sheet to made available with current link for reporting.	dangerous materials in the work area. Presence of any suspicious materials should be reported to the Environment Agency Pollution Hotline (0800 731 2453)	adur-and-worthing-clean-and-tidy/report-hazard Tel: 01903 851729
Irritant and dangerous plants	Risk of stings and scratches from nettles, thorns etc.	- First aid kit to be available on-site. - Volunteers should wear protective gloves.		Provide list and images of potentially present dangerous plants
Dog fouling/faeces	Toxocara canis	- Volunteers advised not to touch dog faeces. - Wear disposable gloves and remove waste using plastic spade and dog waste bag. Place in dog waste bin. Do not use litter pickers. - Wash hands thoroughly as soon as practicable and clean and disinfect spade.	Provide dog waste bags, disposable gloves and disinfectant.	Report any unusual behaviour to Dog Warden dog.wardens@adur-worthing.gov.uk Tel: 01903 221064 (weekdays, 9.00 am - 5.30 pm or 07713 889128 (out of hours and weekends)
Incorrect use of tools & equipment	Volunteers risking injury by using tools and equipment that they are not familiar with	- Volunteers cannot use tools and equipment with which they are unfamiliar. (Strimmer's, loppers, mowers, etc.) - No working above head height at any time	Training to be provided as necessary.	
Use of strimmer	Strimmer operator, volunteers and passers-	Can only be used by suitably trained volunteer.		

	by in danger of being injured be flying debris or strimmer wire	• Operator must wear appropriate PPE (Full face visor, sturdy footwear, gloves, legs and arms covered). Cannot be used when other volunteers or passers-by encroach)		
Extreme weather (hot)	Flood Wardens and volunteers risk sunstroke sunburn, dehydration and heat exhaustion due to hot weather	• First aid kit to be available on-site. • Volunteers instructed to dress appropriately. • Volunteers advised to wear sunhats, apply sunscreen and to rehydrate frequently. • Advise volunteers to take regular breaks and seek shade if necessary.		