

Guidance to volunteers on beginning litter picking activities from 1st June 2020

Following the latest government announcements on easing the lockdown, we have prepared this guidance to support you, and volunteers in your group, to begin litter picking once again in the safest way possible.

Please only consider resuming litter picking if you are happy to do so – there is no obligation or expectation from Rubbish Walks CIC for you to do this.

Litterpicking can be carried out alone, in pairs (Method 1 below) or small groups of up to a maximum of six, including yourself (Method 2 below), based on the current government guidance for meeting with people outside of your household.

If your volunteer group has its own insurance policy please check that it covers you for litterpicking during this period of the pandemic.

Please note: Government guidance on the lockdown may tighten or ease over time, so please contact us if you have any questions about what is safe practice.

Please let us know if your experience of using these procedures work, as we'd be keen to hear any feedback and to refine if necessary.

Method 1 - Litter picking alone or in pairs

Before encouraging your volunteers to go out, alone or in pairs, please remember:

Individuals currently shielding, in 'at risk' groups, displaying symptoms (or in contact with those with symptoms) or have been directly advised to self-isolate should not litterpick

If you wish to handout equipment to volunteers in your group for litter picking, please follow these points:

- Please supply volunteers with litterpickers and Hi-Vis vests. Ask volunteers to use their own gloves.
- We would recommend volunteers keep hold of this kit for the foreseeable future, rather than return it after each use so that only they use it.
- For distribution - please leave litter pickers outside your property with a bottle of household anti-bacterial spray. We suggest giving out a small number so that you can keep track of them.
- Please ask volunteers to spray the handle of the litter picker when they collect it and again if returned.
- Please share a copy of the *Guidance for volunteers working alone or in pairs* document with volunteers.

Method 2 – Small groups lead by an Event Organiser

As of 1st June, a small group is defined as a maximum of six people (including the Group Leader), however, this number may increase or decrease over time – please follow changes to Government guidance.

- You will need to check that your Local Authority are currently able to collect your clean up's litter. If they don't have capacity to do this, please refer back Method 1 above.
- Directly invite volunteers to clean ups so that you know exactly who will turn up and to keep numbers within limits set by Government guidance.
- As summer approaches, be aware that certain areas could be very busy so you may want to consider the timing of clean ups e.g. in the evening and avoiding weekend times.
- Be aware of any 'pinchpoints' with lots of people congregating. Keep social distancing and wash hands after touching shared surfaces.

- Observe social distancing, particularly at start and end of event when equipment being handed out/collected and during the safety briefing, which should be held outside
- Provide hand sanitising or ask volunteers to bring their own.
- Signing in should be carried out by the Event Organiser – completing a form themselves rather than sharing pen and paper.
- First Aid Treatment – please see current advice from St. John Ambulance <https://www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/first-aid-advice/covid-19-advice-for-first-aiders/>
- Any returned equipment should be sanitised at the end of each event.
- We recommend the event organiser should bring spare clean gloves which people can take home.
- Please share a copy of the *Guidance for volunteers working in small groups* document with volunteers.