

Keep Wales Tidy Risk Assessment – Woodland management Generic Risk Assessment

(To be use with chainsaw/brushcutter/ fire risk assessments if needed)

Name:

Assessment Number:

Date:

Location & Grid Ref: (<http://www.gridreferencefinder.com/>)

Nearest A&E- Postcode & ☎: (<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/>)

Mobile Coverage: Yes / No

Further Assessments Required:	✓	Persons Involved or Affected by the Task:	✓
Fire		KWT employees	✓
Control of Substances Hazardous to Health		Employees- other organisations	
Young people & children		Volunteers	✓
Nursing/Expectant Mothers		Members of the Public	✓
People with disabilities		Contractors	

Hazards Identified	Severity (S)	Control Measures Currently in Place	Likelihood (L)	Score (S x L)	Rating
Road traffic- Possibility of participants falling into road or being hit by cars (if applicable)	5	High-vis vests worn by participants. KWT officer to be alert to unsafe working. No participants to work near fast-moving traffic, or on sharp bends in road. Warning signs to be used where appropriate.	2	10	Medium
Illness from pre-existing medical condition, especially affected by the physical nature of the task	5	Officer to ask participants about medical conditions at start and check that people have medication where needed. Officer to carry mobile phone.	2	10	Medium
Injury through being hit by falling trees or branches	5	Volunteers to be trained in correct felling technique, including identifying safe working areas around tree, clearing escape route, accurate gob and felling cut, awareness of splitting and movement of base of felled tree, leaving the tree in a safe condition. Operator must ensure area will be clear before felling. Members of the public should be excluded from the felling area, warning signs and/or tape placed. Banksman must be alert for people entering felling zone. Briefing- Volunteers to observe safe working distances of two tree lengths for felling and to wear hi-vis jackets and hard hats at all times. Officer to identify and mark off with tape, areas with dead, hanging branches overhead or “hung up” trees (those only still standing because of support from other trees) Officer will monitor wind conditions and assess potential for falling branches.	2	10	Medium

Slip, trip or fall on uneven or slippery ground	3	<p>Officer will walk site prior to beginning activity to assess conditions and identify local hazards. Officer will advise participants to exercise caution when working near steep slopes, holes, dangerous trees, etc.</p> <p>In wet weather, the officer will assess ground conditions and consider changing work plan on slopes.</p> <p>Participants must wear safety footwear with good grip.</p> <p>Participants must keep the site tidy by clearing brash into piles and keeping tools out of walkways when not in use.</p> <p>KWT officer should identify marked areas for tools to be left.</p> <p>KWT officer will assign a volunteer to supervise each area.</p>	3	9	Medium
Risk of injury and infection through cuts and gashes, splinters, foreign bodies in eye, dirty hands etc	3	<p>All participants to wear appropriate PPE, long sleeved tops and trousers, sturdy footwear at all times.</p> <p>Officer to advise about thorny plants such bramble, blackthorn. Provide gloves, rake or other tools to handle cut material.</p> <p>Provide goggles for working among thorns or twiggy scrub. Participants to avoid touching eyes, mouth and food with unwashed hands. Wash hands with soap and water at end of task.</p> <p>Cuts and splinters (especially from blackthorn) to be treated promptly to avoid infection etc.</p> <p>Hand cleansing gel, First Aid kit plus sterile water and eyebath to be available.</p> <p>KWT officer is First Aid trained and carries a First Aid kit</p>	3	9	Medium
Back injury or muscular injury from moving heavy objects, eg logs.	4	<p>Officer to demonstrate correct manual handling techniques</p> <p>Items that cannot be picked up easily should be moved using cooperation and correct lifting technique.</p> <p>Moving gear such as a barrow or log mover should be provided if needed. Steel toe caps should be worn by participants</p>	2	8	Medium
Injury from tools, materials and other equipment	4	<p>Officer to read & implement KWT policy on working with hand tools.</p> <p>Safe working practices to be followed & suitable clothing & PPE worn.</p> <p>Only trained people will use heavy or sharp-edged hand tools.</p> <p>Participants to work a safe distance apart, depending on the task and tools used, but at least far enough apart to avoid being caught by branches if removing brash</p> <p>Tools and materials to be stored safely in a designated area when not in use and never left unprotected where they could cause injury.</p>	2	8	Medium
Poisoning or skin damage from ingestion or contact with hazardous plant material eg toxic berries, giant hogweed etc	4	<p>Site to be walked prior to activity. Group leader to be able to identify hazardous plant material and all to avoid contact with any suspect plants even if not positively identified.</p>	2	8	Medium

Hazard from extreme weather, including dehydration, exhaustion OR hypothermia	3	Officer to monitor weather on the day for volunteer comfort, changes in ground conditions and effect on tree canopy. Participants should wear suitable clothing for the time of year, including hats as appropriate. Participants not to work for long periods without a rest and a drink. KWT officer to have easy access to heat blanket and drinking water, first aid kit and mobile phone.	2	6	Medium
Delays in getting immediate assistance from First Aider and/or emergency services if required.	5	Officer to check for mobile phone coverage at location, have mobile telephone and be constantly alert for problems. Officer to note nearest road access point and be able to give directions. Volunteers to work within sight of others and must inform KWT officer if they leave early.	1	5	Medium
Danger of electrocution by overhead power cables	5	Officer to identify any overhead power cables. Warn participants not to fell within two tree lengths of overhead lines.	1	5	Medium
Hazards associated with fencing, such as barbed wire or electrification	4	KWT Officer to assess risk in work area and approaches and speak with landowner about electric fences in area. Remove barbed wire hidden in vegetation if possible. Cordon off hazardous barbed wire or electric fence-lines if required	1	4	Low
Hazardous waste hidden in hedgerows and undergrowth	2	KWT officer to check for hazardous waste at the start of the activity. Participants always to look carefully before reaching into undergrowth	2	4	Low
Animals – trampling, bites, attacks.	3	Participants not to approach animals. Consult with landowner about livestock when appropriate. Suitable clothing and footwear to be worn at all times. First Aid kit and clean water to be carried.	1	3	Low
Hazards to Keep Wales Tidy identified					
Theft or loss of equipment and tools		Tools and equipment to be returned to a safe location when no longer in use			

Severity (Worst Case Scenario)				
5	4	3	2	1
Fatality	Severe Injury	Lost Time Injury	Minor Injury	No Injury

Likelihood (Given Precautions in Place)				
5	4	3	2	1
Certain	Very Likely	Likely	Unlikely	Remote

Risk Rating Table				
Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low
20-25	15-19	5-14	3-4	1-2

Action Required (Including Temporary Action and Control Measures)	Action Review Date	Action Completed (Name and Date)

Further Actions which may Require Longer Term Consideration	Action Review Date	Action Completed (Name and Date)

If any Issues are Outstanding from the Action Review Date Please Detail the Reasons

Assessment Review Date:

New Risk Assessment Required?

Yes / No

Completed by:

Signature:

Event counter-signed:

Signature: