

LITTER PICKING SAFETY CHECKLIST



Group members participate in litter picks entirely at their own risk. They are not working for or on behalf of Ashington Town Council.

Please check government Coronavirus guidance, to ensure your litter picks are carried out in the safest way possible. The most recent government guidance can be found at; www.gov.uk

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

- ◆ Social distancing will be required where appropriate
- ◆ Use own gloves, face coverings and sanitiser where appropriate
- ◆ Wash hands before and after at home
- ◆ Consider location choice, avoid anywhere with pinch points or where social distancing may be difficult
- ◆ Don't share litter pickers and avoid contact with other people's equipment
- ◆ Tell someone where you are going and stay in mobile contact
- ◆ Avoid direct contact with litter at all times (use your litter picker, not your hands!)
- ◆ Be aware of your environment and do not put yourself at risk whilst picking litter
- ◆ Do not pick when visibility is poor and only pick in daylight hours
- ◆ Do not pick up any items that cannot easily be identified or where they are clearly hazardous. If you are concerned report to Northumberland County Council on 0345 600 6400
- ◆ Do not attempt to remove dead or live animals. You can report them to Northumberland County Council on 0345 600 6400
- ◆ Use a litter picking tool for any glass and metal items
- ◆ Clean hands thoroughly before eating food or drinking
- ◆ Any needles or drug paraphernalia need to be left alone and reported to Northumberland County Council on 0345 600 6400.



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- ◆ Rubbish should not be compressed using hands as this can accidentally puncture the skin
- ◆ We do not provide safety goggles. Be careful around bushes and brambles
- ◆ Avoid contact with the body when carrying plastic bin bags
- ◆ Ensure any cuts or abrasions are clean and covered with a waterproof plaster
- ◆ Be aware of the risk of ticks and insects in long grass or bushes
- ◆ Wear weather appropriate shoes and clothing
- ◆ Always wear a hi viz vest, be aware of traffic at all times and stop picking to allow any vehicle to pass. Never turn your back towards oncoming traffic
- ◆ Do not overfill bin bags and avoid lifting heavy objects or sacks alone
- ◆ Follow local rules as well as our guidelines, including safe and lawful parking
- ◆ Do not confront anyone you see littering

Useful contacts

Northumberland County Council
Customer Services Centre: 0345 600 6400
www.northumberland.gov.uk

Ashington Town Council
To request a litter bin: 01670 620533
email: ashingtontowncouncil@gmail.com

RSPCA (to report cruelty or an animal in distress)
24-hour line: 0300 1234 999
Online: www.rspca.org.uk/utilities/contactus/reportcruelty

