Adopt-a-Street COVID-19 regulations

Please read the safety advice below.

To carry out any litter picking activity it will be necessary for **all** participants to follow these guidelines:

Before you begin:

Do you have any of the following symptoms?

- high temperature
- new continuous cough
- loss of sense of taste or smell

If yes, you must isolate at home and book a test immediately – go to http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119. To protect others, do not go to places like a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital if you have any of these symptoms.

If you have any **other** existing medical condition that may place you at additional risk you will need to complete a medical declaration and seek medical advice from your GP.

Important information:

Any volunteers between 12-18 must be supervised by a parent or guardian. As the provided PPE is not suitable for a child, under 12's will not be able to use the equipment and will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

When lone working participants should:

- always work within your own capabilities.

- only work in daylight hours.
- sign up to work on a specific road/area and only work within the designated area.
- tell a friend or family member where you are working, and what time to expect you back.
- ensure you have a mobile phone on you in case of an emergency.
- read and adhere to the safety guidelines.
- wear and use the provided PPE.

Work must only be carried out within the area you have selected by registering and only on council owned land.

- litter picking may only take place in the vicinity of a highway when the maximum speed limit is 30mph or below, volunteers may only work from the footway (pavement).
- always wear a Hi-Viz and move towards the direction of oncoming traffic.
- participants must not step onto or work on the highway.
- be aware of the likelihood of any vehicles in the area.
- do not work outside of the designated area, particularly hazardous areas such as slopes, cliffs, water bodies etc.

Safety advice:

If you are going to be a carrying out a litter pick you will need gloves, a litter picking tool, Hi-Viz and bags to contain the waste.

Under no circumstances should you pick up litter with your bare hands. Due to the strict Covid 19 hygiene regulations it is suggested that you do not share tools unless with people from your household.

You **WILL** need hand sanitiser.

You will need good footwear (no sandals or flip flops), depending on the weather appropriate clothing, sun protection and water to hydrate.

Stop work in poor weather conditions.

Do not share refreshments.

Cover cuts and abrasions with waterproof plasters.

Wash hands or use hand sanitiser as soon as possible after litter picking.

During the activity:

Keeping you safe whilst out litter picking is very important to us.

1. Please keep your distance – we suggest 2 metres to ensure you are safe, unless you live in the same household or bubble.

2. If you are approached by a member of the public, please ensure that you maintain 2m distancing and do not exchange any items physically. If you feel others are not maintaining social distancing, then please leave that area.

3. Plan your route and please be aware of any potential risks along the way – water bodies, steep slopes etc

4. Do not attempt to pick litter from water bodies such as rivers/ streams or lakes.

5. Do not litter pick from ditches unless the litter is easily accessible and do not lean in/over the ditch to reach the litter.

6. Be aware of and do not remove litter if any risk of injury:

- shrubs, branches and hedgerows especially at eye height
- dangerous plants and vegetation - avoid skin contact
- disturbing wildlife – do not cut back hedges or brambles

7. Please do not remove anything that may be too heavy, or awkward to carry.

8. Please do not pick up any hazardous items especially:

- syringes
- drug paraphernalia
- anything sharp (e.g broken glass)
- leaking batteries
- asbestos
- chemicals

If you do find these items, make note of the location and report it to us (01934 888 888).

All participants are responsible for ensuring they have a current tetanus cover.

9. On the rare occasion that you may locate an unexploded device please do not touch it, move well away and contact 999 immediately.

10. Families are welcome to litter pick together but young children need to be supervised and should take regular breaks. They should not lift anything heavy and be aware of the effects of repetitive actions.

11. Some areas within North Somerset are agreed areas for people to exercise their dogs off lead.

- participants to be aware of their surroundings and dogs within the park.
- participants must not approach unknown dogs without permission from owner.

Do not pick up dog faeces, unless bagged and always use litter picker.

And finally…

Once you have finished your litter picking:

- wash your hands and all equipment thoroughly, especially before eating or smoking.
- avoid touching your face until you have stored your equipment and bags of litter and have washed your hands.

Please take any landfill waste home and dispose of it in your black bin, if you require any extra recycling boxes to accommodate your litter picking please order from the council website or contact us directly to request them.

If you have collected ten bags or more please bulk them in a suitable place, so they are not causing an obstruction and contact us to arrange a collection. If possible, give advance notice so we can book a collection in advance. Please bear in mind that our street cleansing team have a finite resource and we cannot guarantee a response time. It will be appreciated if you only use this resource if necessary.

Some Useful Contacts

Emergency services: 999 or 111

Report hazardous waste or drug/sex paraphernalia: 01934 888 888

RSPCA for animals in distress: 0300 123 4999

Streets and Open Spaces (Mon-Fri): 01934 888 802

Thank you for your support.