

LANDCARE ILLAWARA VOLUNTEER GROUP RISK ASSESSMENT



Group name: _____

HAZARD		RISK	RISK RATE *	CONTROLS	ADJUSTED RISK RATE**
Weather	Rain, Storms, Lightning	Lightning strike, flooding		Do not work in rainy weather or immediately after heavy rain, avoid areas subject to flooding	
	Heat	Sunburn, dehydration, heat exhaustion		Work in shade, rehydrate and take breaks regularly, wear hat, long sleeves and sunscreen	
	Wind	Dropped branches, chill factor		Assess site before working for hanging and weak tree branches, wear warm clothes and head protection. Stop work if raining	
Animals/Insects	Snakes	Snake bite		Wear long pants and boots. Do not put hands down holes or under plants unless the area is visible. Always allow an escape point when working in thick vegetation. Immobilise, apply snake bandage, call 000	
	Spiders	Bites		Wear gloves and long sleeves and pants. Avoid disturbing spider holes. First aid, seek medical attention	
	Tick/leeches/mites	Bites, long term illness		Use insect repellent, avoid long periods of working under low hanging foliage or sitting on the ground	

	Animals	Crushing, chasing, goring		Do not walk through livestock paddocks, ensure all gates are closed. Avoid wombat holes	
Tool use		Cuts/injuries		Training in correct tool use, ensure tools are maintained and cleaned. First aid training and kit	
		Manual handling injuries		Demonstrate and apply safe manual handling techniques. Use trolleys or wheelbarrows and 2 person lifts for heavy items	
Mulching		Inhalation, Manual injuries		Wear a mask, approach from upwind, rotate and share task	
Uneven ground		Slips, trips and falls		Avoid uneven ground, take extra care and slow pace of work	
Vegetation		Poisoning, stings		Identify potentially hazardous plants, tape off or avoid	
Remote areas		Fire		Check Fires near me app. Do not work on high fire hazard days	
		Getting lost		Ensure all workers are aware of site location. Make sure all workers are always in sight. GPS phone apps	
		Emergency access		Identify safe routes into and out of site. Note closest streets for reporting to emergency services	
Chemical use		Poisoning		All users to be trained in chemical use. Use PPE as per chemical label. Glyphosate only to be used	
		Spills		Refill chemical bottles off-site away from drains, creeks or sensitive sites.	

			Use dripper/swipe bottles only. Contain bottles when transporting	
Traffic		Collisions	Follow traffic rules, drive to conditions, use seat belts	
Machinery use	Refuelling	Spillage, explosion	Refuel away from drains, creeks or sensitive areas. Wait for machine to cool down before refuelling	
	Operating	Incorrect use, accidents	Correct training, read operation manual before use	
Fences	Electric	Electrocution	Ensure fences are turned off, check before touching	
	Barbed wire	Injury	Do not climb or go under barbed wire, use access points	
Other site visitors	Members of public/children	Injury	Ensure tools and chemicals are located away from visitors	
	People with objections to site or work	Disputes, altercations, disagreement	Council must be informed of local Landcare activities. Direct all enquiries to the local council, limit engagement	

		Impact →				
		Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Significant	Severe
Likelihood ↑	Very Likely	Low Med	Medium	Med Hi	High	High
	Likely	Low	Low Med	Medium	Med Hi	High
	Possible	Low	Low Med	Medium	Med Hi	Med Hi
	Unlikely	Low	Low Med	Low Med	Medium	Med Hi
	Very Unlikely	Low	Low	Low Med	Medium	Medium

RATING THE RISK *

Use the Risk matrix to rate the likelihood of a risk occurring and how serious the impact could be. This is the risk rate* to fill in the column after Risks.

Rate the risks after considering safety control measures to minimise the risk. This is your adjusted risk rate** to put in the column after Controls

- Attach this risk assessment to the Volunteer In-kind activity log.
- The Volunteer group coordinator is to deliver the risk assessment to all volunteers. Additions should be made for site-specific conditions.
- Signing the In-kind activity log confirms that the member is aware of their WHS responsibilities and agrees with the risk assessment

Coordinator name:

Signature:

Date: