



East Hunsbury
Parish Council

Volunteer Litter Picking

Thank you for volunteering to help keep East Hunsbury tidy. This documentation is shared with East Hunsbury Litter Pickers FB group and with East Hunsbury Wombles.

This document gives guidance for volunteers about how to litter pick, keeping yourself and others safe.

Covid safety

- Volunteers should litter pick individually or within a family group
- Group activities are not permitted at this time (until Covid restrictions are lifted)
- Ensure that social distancing is maintained while litter picking during this time
- Wear suitable protective equipment at all times; including facemasks if necessary
- Remember hand hygiene measures – ensure you wash your hands before you start and when you return home and take antibacterial solution with you

Protective clothing and equipment

- Wear suitable footwear and clothing
- Wear gloves
- Use the litter pickers provided
- Wear hi-vis clothing if possible – if in a family group, the lead should wear hi-vis (please contact us if you do not have any, we may be able to help)

Dangerous materials

Volunteers should not touch or move the items listed below. Instead, please make a note of the location and report it to the Parish Council:

- Broken glass
- Drug related litter/hypodermic syringes
- Unidentified substance or containers or liquid
- Asbestos
- Large/heavy items
- Any other potentially hazardous item

If there is any doubt about an item, do not touch it and let the Parish Council know.

Hunsbury Library, Overslade Close, East Hunsbury, Northampton, NN4 0RZ

Tel: 01604 708429

www.easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Other safety considerations

- Volunteers under the age of 18 should be supervised by a parent or a responsible adult.
- Be extremely cautious when litter picking at the side of roads. Hi-Vis is needed if you are beside busy roads.
- Restrict litter picking to locations with pavements, or to parks and open spaces.
- Carry out litter picking, facing oncoming traffic.
- Remember, volunteers should wear hi-visibility waistcoats and only litter pick in clear daylight.
- Do not attempt to clear litter from the carriageway.
- Prevent scratches and eye injuries by not reaching into hedges or undergrowth.
- If an item cannot be reached with the litter picker, then leave it.
- Do not litter pick close to rivers or steep slopes.
- Consider wildlife. Do not disturb animals or birds that may be nesting and watch out for bee and wasp nests.
- Stick to areas that you are allowed to enter or obtain land-owner permission.
- It is recommended that before a litter pick begins, a visual site inspection and risk assessment is carried out. This will help to identify potential risks and hazards. If there is any doubt about the safety of a site, then please do not carry out the litter pick.

Collection and disposal of waste

Little and Often: The most effective way to pick, is to do it little and often. In this way, the items collected can be disposed of in your household waste (black) bins.

This is especially relevant at the moment, during Covid, as Northampton Borough Council cannot pick up large amounts of bags at multiple locations.

When Covid restrictions end: East Hunsbury Parish Council will restart the Community Picks. On these days, we invite you all to go out to pick, and leave the bags at designated locations. We pre-arrange with NBC to pick these up.

Disclaimer

Volunteers participating in litter picks do so at their own risk. Volunteers are not working for, or on behalf of, East Hunsbury Parish Council therefore the Council will not be held responsible for any injury, loss, damage or inconvenience caused as a result of the actions and omissions of volunteers or of this guidance provided.