


GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT 07: TREE & OTHER PLANTING TASKS

ACTIVITY ASSESSED	ASSESSMENT DATE	
TREE & OTHER PLANTING TASKS page 1 of 1	OCTOBER 2014 rev Dec 21	
ACTIVITY LOCATION	ALL SITES	DATE FOR RE-ASSESSMENT
persons at risk: all volunteers; especially young persons		ASSESSED BY
risk level: generally moderate except as indicated		GRASSROOTS

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION	<p>Contact with branches/ twigs</p> <p>Contact with soil borne micro organisms</p> <p>Contact with infectious diseases – depending on location</p> <p>Muscle strains from heavy digging</p> <p>General manual handling</p> <p>Slips, trips and falls</p> <p>Staking of trees</p>
HAZARD OR HAZARDOUS EVENT	PRECAUTIONS
Contact with branches/ twigs	<p>Advise of risk to eyes from twigs,</p> <p>Advise of risk from thorns, especially from blackthorns that infect easily</p>
Contact with soil- borne micro-organisms	<p>Wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking</p> <p>Participants must be advised to have Tetanus inoculation</p> <p>Any cut received must be promptly washed and covered; cover any broken skin before work; promptly wash and cover any cuts received</p> <p>Use tools/feet, not hands, to move and firm soil</p> <p>Wear leather or PVC protective gloves to prevent contact with soil</p>
Muscle strains from heavy digging	<p>Instruct in and ensure safe and correct digging/lifting techniques</p> <p>Rotate work to avoid injuries</p>
General manual handling	<p>Plan in advance any lifting of heavy or awkward items including bags of trees, stakes</p> <p>Train all in safe lifting, carrying & moving techniques</p> <p>Designate people to load and unload tools</p> <p>Provide carrying aids, e.g. wheelbarrow</p> <p>Heavy items will be carried between two people</p> <p>Limit number of tools any one individual carries</p>
Slips, trips and falls	<p>Always leave tools in clear, safe place</p> <p>Inspect site and clear/ mark inherent trips hazards</p>
Staking of trees	<p>Any stake/post being driven in should be held with a stob twister</p> <p>If another person has to hold stake they must wear a hard hat and leather gloves</p>
Use of fertilisers and pesticides	<p>GrassRoots do not normally use chemicals</p> <p>Occasionally trees are to be mulched with well-rotted manure:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">hygiene practices are to be followed;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">gloves are to be worn</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">wash hands before eating, drinking, etc</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">see also contact with soil- borne micro-organisms above</p>