



**LIVE
HERE
LOVE
HERE**

LITTER- PICKING QUICK GUIDE

Whether you're planning a one-off clean-up or regular litter-picking, use this Quick Guide to get started safely and make your activity a success!



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enquiries@liveherelovehere.org

Before You Start

Health and Safety First:

Read the full Health and Safety Handbook [here](#). Carefully consider all potential risks before any litter picking takes place to help prevent accidents.

Complete a Risk Assessment:

Identify potential hazards and the precautions required. Use our [Risk Assessment Template](#) to get started. A full step by step guide to completing a risk assessment is available in our [Health and Safety Handbook](#).

Appoint a Group Leader:

If working in a group, appoint a Group Leader to complete the risk assessment and deliver the safety briefing to volunteers.

Inform Others:

If working alone, always let someone know your location and expected return time.

Get Permission:

Ensure you have the landowner's permission if picking on private land.

Get Insurance:

Ensure you have the landowner's permission if picking on private land.

Choose a Safe Location:

The site should be accessible and free from major hazards such as steep banks, uneven ground, or water edges. For coastal areas, [check tide times](#) in advance.

Check the Weather and Daylight:

Avoid litter picking during adverse weather, at night, or when daylight is fading.

Bring the Right Equipment:

- Litter pickers
- Gloves (sturdy and waterproof if possible)
- Hi-vis vests (recommended)
- Rubbish bags
- First aid kit
- Mobile phone

Council Equipment Support:

Many local councils lend equipment to community groups. Check your local council contacts [here](#).

During the Litter Pick

Safety first:

Keep a safe distance from roads and water edges. Never pick up hazardous or heavy items.

If in doubt, don't touch:

Report items such as needles, chemical containers, weapons, or asbestos to your local council.

Supervise children:

Ensure young participants are closely supervised at all times.

Lift safely:

Use your litter picker and avoid bending or twisting awkwardly.

Separate waste:

Where possible, separate recyclables from general waste.

Stay visible:

Wear bright or hi-vis clothing, especially near roads.

After the Litter Pick

Dispose of waste responsibly:

Contact your local council for guidance on bag collection or disposal.

Wash hands thoroughly:

Use soap and warm water after removing gloves.

Check for ticks:

If you were in grassy or wooded areas, inspect your skin and clothing.

Report your activity:

Log your results through the Live Here Love Here [Activity Form](#) to help track collective impact.

Celebrate your efforts:

Take a group photo and share it with us at enquiries@liveherelovehere.org – we love seeing your hard work in action!

In Case of Emergency:

Always have a charged mobile phone at hand.

If an accident occurs, contact emergency services (999) and report the incident as soon as possible.

Contact Us



enquiries@liveherelovehere.org



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Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful
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[View the
Health and
Safety
Handbook](#)



This resource is intended for guidance purposes only and applies to all Live Here Love Here activities, including litter picking and Adopt A Spot. The specific risks and hazards at each location may vary, and it is the event organiser's responsibility to identify these risks and implement appropriate safety precautions.

In the event of an accident, the organiser must record the incident and notify Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful as soon as possible.

Please note that Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful cannot accept legal responsibility for any personal injury, loss, or damage sustained during participation in any of our programmes or campaigns.