GREEN HUNTERS HEALTH AND SAFETY

Instructions:

* Read the following Dos and Don'ts before taking part
* Gear up and collect as much litter as you can within the 15 minutes
* Return to the stand with your collected rubbish in the litter bag
* Scan poster’s QR code to see the collection progress
* Choose a prize
* Enjoy a cleaner park!

Do’s

* Make sure to wear gloves
* Always keep you high vests on
* Sanitize your hands before and after event
* Stay within the parks proximity

Don’ts

* Over fill your rubbish bags
* Never pick up litter with your bare hands
* Leave the equipment’s behind, bring them back to the pickup station
* Take off your high vests during clean up
* Interfere with natural habitats

With thanks to LAGER Can (Litter Action Group for Ealing Residents)

Green Hunting is important and fun work BUT can come with risks, we ask that you read the below guidance and ensure you remain mindful of this whilst collecting litter. The safety of Green Hunters is of most importance, so we ask that you do not put yourself in any dangerous situations whilst collecting rubbish. We ask that parents/carers take responsibility for your families whilst Green Hunting.

Parent Guidance:

* Organiser to ensure all volunteers have read the safety briefing before the start of any group event
* Please return to us to return your safety equipment and your rubbish and share your experience
* We have a first aid kit should you require it at any point however we ask that you take responsibility for your families safety whilst Green Hunting.
* Our Green Hunting staff team will clean and disinfect shared litter picking kit after each use
* Do not disturb wildlife - if you come across active nest/ signs of active habitation of any animal, stop and go elsewhere. Avoid trampling of sensitive habitats as much as possible, and do not to 'tidy up' natural materials like stones and logs etc as they may be key habitat features for invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians and other wildlife.
* Do not pick up Hazardous items (including weapons, syringes, broken glass, faeces, bottle tops, cigarette butts, used PPE)
* On this occasion please do not collect broken glass to avoid contact injury
* Only bagged dog faeces may be collected, removal of plastic from the environment being the primary purpose.
* Do not pick up Syringes, these should be left for collection by a trained professional
* If a weapon is found please do not touch and come and inform us

ADVICE WHILST GREEN HUNTING

* Please ensure you are wearing your correct equipment whilst Green Hunting – gloves and a high vis jacket.
* It is advised to use the litter picker when collecting rubbish and to avoid picking things up with your hands even when wearing gloves where possible
* Please watch for obscured hazards such as tree roots, brambles, holes and uneven ground.
* Care should be taken when walking on slopes and slippery surfaces.
* Participants to wear suitable outdoor footwear, ideally sturdy boots or shoes. Safety boots or shoes with toe and mid sole protection provide the best protection Manual handling (lifting, pushing, pulling and carrying loads)
* Please avoid any heavy lifting
* Participants should ensure that they bend their knees and keep their back straight when lifting their rubbish bags if they do become heavy
* Be careful not to overfill bags, especially if others may be taking them away.
* Be aware of passers-by and take care not to impede buggies and wheelchair users.
* On shared cycle / pedestrian paths and towpaths, keep a lookout for users (cyclists, runners etc) behind you; some may pass dangerously close at high speed with no advance warning.
* Participants should wear gloves and, ideally, long sleeves and thick trousers especially when working with thorny, prickly, stinging plants – eg thistles, brambles, stinging nettles, roses, thorny trees and shrubs. Keep these plants away from your eyes. **If you do not have the appropriate clothing stick to open green spaces.**
* Do not venture into dense vegetation as there maybe unseen risks
* Any participant allergic to bee stings should inform the organiser before the event.
* Be aware and do not go near Giant hogweed: a very tall (up to 3.5m), cow parsley-like plant with thick bristly stems that are often purple-blotched. Flowers are white and held in umbels/flattopped clusters. Flower heads can be as large as 60cm (2ft) across. It can reach a height of 3.5m (11.5ft) or more and has a spread of about 1-2m (3.5-7ft). Chemicals in the sap are phototoxic and can cause blisters to skin. If you see it, report it to the event leader, and do not touch it.
* Not to be confused with Native Hogweed, very similar but much smaller growing (up to 6ft/ 1.8m) when in flower