

Eastwood Landcare Group Inc.

SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Members and volunteers must read and acknowledge an understanding of the Safety Management Plan of the Eastwood Landcare Group Inc. prior to participating in any group activities.

WEED REMOVAL— RUBBISH COLLECTION/REMOVAL

HAZARDS

The hazards that could cause injury when the task is performed could be:

- Snakes - insects (bees, spiders)
- low hanging branches
- Cuts - scratches
- uneven terrain - unseen holes - tripping hazards
- slippery banks - wet grass
- general public passing through the area
- other volunteers in the workspace
- hot/warm weather conditions

RISK CONTROL MEASURES

- Wear gloves - eye protection - appropriate footwear and clothing
- Don't put your hand into an area where you can't see what's around it
- Look before you step - plant your feet firmly
- Be aware of your surroundings - other people working nearby
- Keep your work area tidy - don't leave tools where someone could trip over them
- First aid kit on site
- Appropriate signage displayed

SMALL BRANCH REMOVAL WITH PRUNING SAW, TREE LOPPERS, SECATEURS ETC.

HAZARDS

The hazards that could cause injury when the task is performed could be:

- Cuts - scratches
- Uneven terrain - unseen holes - tripping hazards
- Slippery bands - wet grass
- Low hanging branches
- Other volunteers in the work space
- Heat/warm conditions
- Use of tools
- General public passing through the area

-

-

RISK CONTROL MEASURES

- Wear gloves - eye protection - appropriate footwear and clothing
- Don't put your hand into an area where you can't see what's around it
- Look before you step - plant your feet firmly
- Be aware of your surroundings - other people working nearby
- Keep your work area tidy - don't leave tools where someone could trip over them
- First aid kit on site
- Appropriate signage displayed

VEGETATION COLLECTION AND REMOVAL

HAZARDS

The hazards that could cause injury when the task is performed

- Vehicles/trailer moving through the work area
- Volunteers working
- General public passing through

RISK CONTROL MEASURES

- Be observant—know what’s happening around you
- Look out for others
- Keep debris off the working track
- Appropriate signage

EQUIPMENT USE - BRUSH CUTTER, LAWN MOWER ETC

HAZARDS

The hazards that could cause injury when the task is performed

- Lack of training/knowledge of correct use of equipment
- Loose flying objects/debris
- Unseen objects in the undergrowth
- Uneven terrain
- Wet grass - long grass
- Low hanging branches
- Volunteers in the area
- Prolonged use - musculoskeletal injuries

RISK CONTROL MEASURES

- Ensure only trained or familiar operators use the equipment
- Wear correct protective equipment (harness - ear muffs - safety glasses -appropriate clothing and footwear)
- Ensure area is clear of other workers
- Rake out long grass/debris
- Rest frequently

SPRAYING WEEDS WITH CHEMICALS

HAZARDS

The hazards that could cause injury when the task is performed

- Chemical use - improper use
- Lack of knowledge of chemical in use
- Musculoskeletal injuries
- Heavy load
- Spray drift

RISK CONTROL MEASURE

- Chemical MSDS on site
- Appropriate personal protective equipment used (Gloves -eye protection -clothing and footwear)
- Consider the capacity of the spray pack and your capacity - don't overfill
- Facilities to wash up after chemical use or in case of mistaken contact
- Knowledge and understanding of spraying technique/equipment
- Don't spray where volunteers are working or likely to work
- Consider wind and spray drift

WORKING OUTDOORS

HAZARDS

The hazards that could cause injury when the task is performed

- Exposure to the elements - UV exposure
- Dehydration
- Heat exhaustion
- Fatigue
- Insects - mosquitos - bees - ants etc.
- Volunteers have different abilities and capacity to participate

RISK CONTROL MEASURE

- Wear protective clothing - hat - long sleeve shire etc.
- Slip, slop, slap - use sunscreen
- Stay hydrated
- Take frequent rest breaks
- Avoid working in the hottest part of the day
- Seek shade
- Use insect repellent
- Look out for each other

This Safety Management Plan is quite comprehensive but the current conditions and the day's activities must still be considered and any further hazards identified and control measures taken

EMERGENCIES

- Medical emergency/ambulance - Ring 000
- Bairnsdale Hospital - Ring 5150 3333
- Report any incidents/injuries to a Committee member

2013