

This risk assessment relates only to the *generic* features of a common activity; it does not cover those *specific* to a location or group. It therefore must not be used without completing the local review, making additions as necessary to take account of local circumstances. However, such a local review need not be timeconsuming. Use the box at the bottom to create the local review, or add extra pages as necessary. **SEE ACCOMPANYING SAFETY NOTES**

ACTIVITY ASSESSED 30. Removing saplings with tree poppers and garden forks	ASSESSOR Steve Bolsover	ASSESSMENT DATE 3 rd July 2023
HAZARD potential for harm	RISK LEVEL	PRECAUTIONS to remove hazard or reduce risk level. One precaution may tackle several hazards.
The tree poppers are very heavy and could cause back strain if carried long distances	L	The tools will be carried to the work site in a wheelbarrow
Digging out saplings usually requires bending and physical force and could cause back strain	M	The tree popper tools allow saplings to be uprooted with no bending of the back. Only in the rare instance where the tree popper does not successfully uproot the sapling will we use a garden fork.
Garden forks can spear a foot if used carelessly	L	Garden forks will only be used in the rare instance where the tree popper does not successfully uproot the sapling. Volunteers will be instructed in the safe use of garden forks. Forks will only be used by volunteers who are wearing heavy boots.
RISKS AND PRECAUTIONS SPECIFIC TO THE SITE OR DAY ASSESSOR ASSESSMENT DATE APPLICABLE DATES (This is likely either to be one specific day, or “until further notice”.)		

Risk level: L = Low, M = Medium, H = High

ACTIVITY ASSESSED	ASSESSOR	ASSESSMENT DATE
30. Removing saplings with tree poppers and garden forks	Steve Bolsover	3 rd July 2023
RESTRICTIONS		
PREVENTATIVE MEASURES		
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT		
Volunteers will wear thick gardening gloves while using the tree poppers and garden forks		
TRAINING		
Volunteers will be instructed in safe use of the tree poppers and forks before work commences.		
MONITORING		
Harrow Nature Conservation Forum personnel will monitor the work at all times and intervene if appropriate		
INFORMATION		

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