



# **Dartmoor Forest Parish Council**

## **Risk Assessment**

### **Snow Wardens**

Task/Operation:	Snow Warden and Volunteers in Princetown	
Group(s) affected:	Snow Warden, Volunteers, Members of Public (MOP), Highway Users.	
Person(s) undertaking assessment:	Parish Clerk	
Consultees:	Derbyshire County Council documentation	
Date of assessment:	20 January 2014	
Date of Reviews:	20 January 2015	No change
	23 March 2021	Correction of minor typing errors
Date of Next Review:	23 March 2022	
<p><b>General:</b></p> <p>Snow Wardens to have attended the DCC Snow Warden training course or to have received cascade training from a volunteer who has attended the training.</p> <p>Do not clear highways other than across side roads to provide safe walking between pavement sections.</p> <p>This is a generic risk assessment. The Snow Warden in charge must assess any event specific risks, consulting with any appropriate authorities and record them on this form.</p> <p>10 g/m<sup>2</sup> is the recommended spread rate of salt. 40 g/m<sup>2</sup> for packed snow/ice.</p>		

Key: P = Probability; C = Consequence; R = Risk Rating

No	Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	Before control			State control measures to be put in place <u>and by whom</u>	After control		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
1	Slips	Injury to Snow Warden, Injury to Volunteer, Injury to MOP.	2	2	4	Wear suitable sturdy footwear with good grip. Clear 2-3 metres of snow and then apply salt. Do not clear long stretches without applying salt to the cleared area.  Pay special attention to steps and steep footways. Endeavour to remove snow as soon as possible after fall, before it is compacted by foot traffic and made more difficult to remove	1	2	2
2	Trips & Falls	Injury to Snow Warden, Injury to Volunteer, Injury to MOP.	2	2	4	Be familiar with the area you are going to clear in advance of snow conditions. Take note of any potential hazards that may become hidden when snow is on the ground.  Ensure work equipment not in use does not become a trip hazard.  Work during daylight hours or in well-lit areas. Have a torch available if work is necessary during hours of darkness.	1	2	2
3	Weather / Cold	Effects of cold, Discomfort, Hypothermia,	2	2	4	Wear suitable clothing to keep warm (better to layer-up)  Have regular warm drinks – (take a flask or make alternative arrangements)  Do not carry out the task in extreme conditions.	1	2	2
4	Vehicular traffic	Struck by moving vehicle  Injury or death of Snow Warden, Volunteer, or MOP	2	3	6	Work from footway where possible. Wear upper body hi-vis clothing. Be alert to abnormal traffic behaviour. Stand back and watch traffic past if traffic is passing in close proximity.  Face on-coming traffic where possible.	1	3	3

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No	Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	Before control			State control measures to be put in place <u>and by whom</u>	After control		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
5a	Manual Handling	Manual handling injury to of Snow Warden or Volunteer.	2	2	4	<p>Warm up your muscles before doing the heavy work. Stiff muscles that work hard are more prone to injury.</p> <p>Don't try to get all the way down to the bottom of deep snow all at once. Try to scoop a many small loads instead of fewer big ones</p> <p>Practice good manual handling techniques or consider 2 person lift.</p> <p>Maintain good posture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Use your leg muscles as much as possible - push snow when you can and use your legs to lift when you can't push it.</li> <li>B. Keep your back straight as you move from the squat position to the upright position.</li> <li>C. Use your shoulder muscles as much as possible.</li> <li>D. Hold the snow shovel as close to your upper body as possible.</li> <li>E. Keep one hand close to the shovel blade for better leverage.</li> <li>F. Don't twist your upper body as you throw snow.</li> </ul>	1	2	2

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No	Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	Before control			State control measures to be put in place <u>and by whom</u>	After control		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
5b	Manual Handling	Manual handling injury to of Snow Warden or Volunteer.	2	2	4	Salt provided in 25kg bags. Do not move snow twice. Move snow the shortest distance possible. Use handling aids to assist where necessary e.g. wheelbarrow / sledge. Before it snows, store salt bags in strategic locations near where they will be used. Only carry out the task if you are capable of doing and have signed the 'Fit to Participate' form.	1	2	2
6	Lone Working	No assistance in the event of emergency.	2	3	6	Avoid lone working where possible. Let someone (nominated contact) know where you are working and what time you will be back. Carry a mobile phone (fully charged) and communicate with nominated contact at least once every hour.	1	3	3
7	Contact with Salt  (Chemical / physical)  (Note: salt is not classified as dangerous for supply or use)	Drying effect on skin, irritation of skin and open wounds/scratches	1	2	2	Avoid contact with skin and eyes Keep off vegetation and prevent entering watercourse. <b>First aid –</b> Skin: Wash skin water Eye Contact: Irrigate with clean water for at least 10 minutes. If symptoms develop, obtain medical attention.	1	1	1
8	Physical exertion	Exhaustion, Injury,	2	3	6	Work within your own capabilities. Be mindful of your limitations. Take frequent rest breaks.	1	3	3