

Fencing

How to use this Risk Assessment

This risk assessment document is for LCV Task Leaders. It identifies the common risks associated with fencing tasks and common measures which can be taken to control them. Task Leaders must use it in conjunction with LCV's Site Safety risk assessment and other activity-based generic risk assessments to assist them in their own risk assessment which will determine the contents of the pre-task safety talk and the organisation of activities that take place during the task.

This risk assessment must be used in conjunction with the *Site safety* assessment and perhaps other task-specific risk assessments as appropriate for the activities being carried out. Consult the *Guidance notes* for full instructions.

Generic risk assessment

Training/Supervision required
PPE required

Review risk assessment and brief personnel on risks and controls before work starts
Protective footwear and gloves. Additional PPE in line with tool manufacturer's instructions or detailed below.



**Lothians
Conservation
Volunteers**

Common hazards Associated with the work activity	Who is at risk? Public, staff, trainees, volunteers	Risk rating Risk level before controls are in place	Control measures Measures that must be in place before work is allowed to start	Residual risk rating Risk remaining after controls are in place
Slips, trips & falls (additional control measures)	Volunteers	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell volunteers that they must keep tools and materials stored safely and tidily Tell volunteers that they must not leave holes dug and not refilled: the holes must be covered or have a post placed in them. 	Low
Hand tools (swinging and sawing).	Volunteers	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell volunteers that they must wear a hard hat when using a mell or holding a post for someone using a mell. Tell volunteers that the hard hat must fit snugly and that they must not wear anything under it Tell volunteers that they must use a stob twister when holding a post for someone using a mell Tell volunteers that they must not wear gloves when using a mell, mattock, pickaxe or hammer. Tell volunteers that the must take care that the head of a mell and the top of posts or stobs are kept free from mud. Advise volunteers to wear a glove on the hand holding wood when sawing. 	Low
Timber	Volunteers	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell volunteers that they must wear gloves when handling treated timber Provide eye protection for volunteers. Advise volunteers to wear eye protection when sawing, drilling or chiselling timber. Do not treat timber <i>in situ</i> unless appropriate protective equipment is available and a specific risk assessment has been carried out and documented. Tell volunteers that they must make sure that all nails are rendered safe (particularly during demolition of structures) by removing them to safe storage or by bending them over flat against the wood. 	Low

Lothians Conservation Volunteers Generic Risk Assessments

Common hazards Associated with the work activity	Who is at risk? Public, staff, trainees, volunteers	Risk rating Risk level before controls are in place	Control measures Measures that must be in place before work is allowed to start	Residual risk rating Risk remaining after controls are in place
Handling wire products	Volunteers	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell volunteers that they must wear eye protection when working with coils of wire (whether barbed or not) • Tell volunteers that they must wear stout gloves when handling barbed wire. • Tell volunteers that they must carry rolls of wire on a stake or pinch bar, between two people. Each person must wear stout gloves. • Advise volunteers to take care when handling stock netting as it can unravel at high speed. • Advise volunteers to keep their fingers out of stock netting. • Tell volunteers that they must fix or weight firmly one end of the wire or netting when unrolling it. • Tell volunteers that they must not hammer staples fully up tight on any intermediate post, to give the wire freedom to move. • Tell volunteers that they must partly staple wire before putting the final strain on it, to prevent it springing free. 	Low
Wire under tension	Volunteers	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell volunteers that they must not tension fence wires unless they are trained and competent to do so. • Ensure that only the person tensioning the wire is close to the wire. All others should stand well clear. 	Low