



# Midsomer Norton Town Council Risk Assessment Form – Leaf Blowing

Activity: Leaf Blowing		Assessment Date: September 2024	Review Date: September 2025		
Hazard	Persons Affected and Risk	Controls	Risk Score	Further Controls	Risk Level
Noise	Employee/Operative  Personal injury - Damage to hearing	Equipment well maintained to reduce vibration – recorded.  Equipment fitted with additional noise insulation.  Low noise level equipment purchased. Noise monitoring carried out.  Use of equipment restricted to 30mins depending on monitoring results.  Hearing defenders issued and used by employees.  Employees trained in correct use of equipment.  Suitable storage and cleaning facilities for PPE	High	Use of PPE provided.  Appropriate equipment provided.  Safe System of Work.  Regular noise level monitoring.  Use quieter equipment if available.	Low

<b>Manual Handling</b>	Employee/Operative  Personal injury – Manual handling injuries	.See Separate Manual Handling Risk Assessment	High	Use of PPE provided.  Appropriate equipment provided.  Safe System of Work.  Conduct regular manual handling assessments.  Encourage regular breaks.	Low
<b>Equipment Failure/Blockage</b>	Employee/Operative  Personal injury	Only trained operative to unblock equipment.  Equipment switched off before unblocking machine.  PPE provided and used.  First aid facilities available.  Staff trained in emergency first aid.  Communications available to summon assistance	Medium	Appropriate equipment provided.  Safe System of Work.  Implement a maintenance schedule.  Keep spare parts readily available.	Low
<b>Inadequate Maintenance</b>	Employee/Operative  Personal injury	Equipment maintained and serviced according to manufacturers guidance.  Maintenance records kept.  Competent person carries out maintenance.  No unauthorised repairs permitted.	High	Appropriate equipment provided.  Safe System of Work.  Establish a routine maintenance schedule.  Keep detailed maintenance records.	Medium

				Regularly review and update maintenance procedures. Train staff on maintenance protocols.	
<b>Refill Leaf Blower with Oil</b>	Employee/Operative  Personal injury – regular contact with skin causing dermatitis	Gloves provided and used.  Only new oil used.  Wash facilities or similar provided.  Good hygiene practices followed.	Medium	Appropriate equipment provided.  Safe System of Work.  Provide training on safe refilling procedures.  Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).  Ensure proper storage of oil and refilling equipment.  Implement spill response procedures.	Low
<b>Vibration</b>	Employee/Operative  Personal injury	Anti-vibration mounts in good condition.  Blower regularly serviced and maintained to reduce likelihood of vibrations.  Gloves worn.  Time period of actually using Blower limited to 1 hr prolonged use.	Medium	Use of PPE provided.  Appropriate equipment provided.  Safe System of Work.  Health surveillance of employees who are at particular risk from vibration.  Use anti-vibration gloves.  Limit exposure time to vibrating equipment.  Regularly monitor vibration levels.	Low

				Use equipment with lower vibration levels if available.	
<b>Debris Flying Up</b>	Employee/Operative  Personal injury – eye injury	Visor/eye protection worn.  Blower directed away from public.  Blower use ceases if public in vicinity.	High	Use of PPE provided - use eye protection (safety goggles).  Appropriate equipment provided.  Safe System of Work.  Ensure the work area is clear of bystanders.  Use barriers or warning signs to keep people away.  Conduct regular safety briefings.	Medium
<b>Lone Working</b>	Employee/Operative	See separate Lone Working Risk Assessment			
<b>Assessor's signature:</b>			<b>Clerk's signature</b>		
<b>Date:</b>			<b>Date:</b>		