

RISK ASSESSMENT

(What could possibly go wrong?)

ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

When doing landcare projects we aim to help the environment, so it's worth thinking about how we could be making a difference, good or bad.

When doing landcare projects we weigh up what we want to do, how we plan to do it, what tools and materials we need and how it affects the environment. This is called doing a risk assessment.

Risk assessments are done at the beginning of every work session so when new people join the group everyone knows how to work safely and protect the environment.

CHECK	HAZARD	MANAGEMENT
	Weeding. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't know if it's a weed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leave plant in the ground if you don't know Seek expert advice Check weed identification books
	Weeding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't know if it's a hazardous plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid if unsure Seek expert advice Check weed identification books
	Weeding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removing too much weed material Removing dead woody material & tree limbs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't leave large areas of bare soil, it can get washed or blown away, and new weed seeds will grow Leave enough vegetation, dead wood and timber for local wildlife to have protection from predators, habitat/food, nesting hollows Install 'Silt stop' mesh until plants grow again to stop soil washing into the stormwater drains and then the Lake
	Weeding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage/removal of weeded material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store weeded material in a place to prevent it spreading further or into nearby bushland Bag or remove from the site weeds that can spread from seed or bits of plant structures Use timber/branches to elevate stored weeds to prevent contact with soil and regrowing
	Tree planting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrong plant for the place chosen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check how big and wide the species to be planted are. Do they need sun or shade, lots of water or only a bit? Seek expert advice
	Tree planting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of tree guards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make sure the tree guards are fixed firmly to the ground Avoid using them near water bodies, (creeks/ lake) where they can be blown into the water Check if they are necessary
	Mulching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washing into water bodies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stabilise mulch with logs or silt mesh around areas where there may be fast moving water A dense planting will make a vegetated barrier and trap mulch on site.
	Other	

Aim for restoration not degradation

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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) is a term used in all work places to describe the systems and procedures that are put in place to keep everyone healthy and safe.

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CHECK	HAZARD	MANAGEMENT
	Sunburn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slip on a shirt, Slop on some sunscreen, Slap on a hat and Wrap on some sunnies
	Sunstroke & dehydration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have drinking water available where you are working Take rest breaks or work in shade Avoid working in the hottest part of the day
	Manual handling (lifting things)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use proper lifting technique- bend the knees, keep your back straight and avoid twisting Buddy up to lift heavy loads
	Not using tools the right way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work 2 metres apart when digging with tree planting mattocks Have a tool training session to get a Landcare tool licence Read Safe Operating Procedures for the tools
	Wildlife and hazardous plants- snakes, ticks, ants, spiders etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear gloves Tread loudly to scare off snakes Wear sturdy footwear, long pants, long sleeved shirt
	Steep & uneven land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be careful on slopes, lean/work into the hill Flag off danger zones Create and use safe access trails
	Physical hazards- e.g poor housekeeping & sharps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the site tidy and don't leave tools in walk ways Put tools in one spot when finished Let a teacher/adult know if you find any sharp objects Adults should use tongs and suitable sharps containers to remove sharp objects
	First Aid Kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry a 1st Aid kit for number of people on site
	Working near water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep away from slippery edges Risk assessment needed for non swimmers and children.
	Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

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