



Forest Preserve District of Cook County

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

www.fpdcc.com

Litter Obliterators **BE SAFE** Procedures

To ensure a safe volunteer workday and a positive experience for all participants, please follow the safety procedures below:

Before your workday

Review the "BE SAFE Procedures" and the "Bag It, Move It, or Leave It?" instructions and be ready to share with all participants at start of the workday.

Evaluate work conditions

Work must be performed when the Preserve is open (during daylight hours). Do not work, or discontinue working, if weather (or other adverse circumstance) causes a public hazard.

Safety precautions

Identify all objects before touching them and handle found items according to the procedures outlined in the "Bag It, Move It, or Leave It" instructions.

- **Personal**
 - **Be aware** of your surroundings at all times, look out for danger and for each other
 - **Know your location** so you are able to give directions in case of an emergency
 - **Proper Gear:** Gloves, long pants, and close-toed shoes (no sandals) are required. Light-colored clothing, long-sleeved shirts, and hats are recommended
 - **Take care of yourself:** Drink plenty of water and protect yourself from the sun
 - **Supervision:** Provide appropriate and adequate adult supervision for youth participants; one adult per five minors is suggested
- **Environmental Concerns**
 - Be alert for stinging insects and be aware of poison ivy. See the Poison Ivy handout sheet for identification and treatment
 - Watch your footing and do not work on unstable or slippery ground
 - Never attempt to pick up litter on roads or highways

Alert the Police

- For an extremely hazardous situation or item, call 911
- Report any illegal activity or unsafe conditions as soon as possible to the Forest Preserve Police (708-771-1001)

Find a suitable location for your bags

Do not overload or compact litter bags and be sure to tie them securely closed. Place bags in an existing trash can; if the can is full, place bags next to the trash can.

Enjoy Your Experience

Make sure to take the time to enjoy the Preserves while you are helping the Preserves.