## Litter Cleanup Safety Tips

Your safety is important to us, so please the following tips in mind during your project!

### Dress for Success
- Wear long pants, long sleeves, socks, and sturdy shoes or boots. Do not wear sandals.
- Make sure to wear sunscreen and insect repellent when appropriate.
- Wear sturdy work or garden gloves and wash your hands well afterward.
- If working near a road or parking lot, put on your high-visibility vest before you start collecting! Always face traffic so drivers can see you and you can see them.

### During the Cleanup
- Designate a team leader to keep track of volunteers.
- Provide at least one adult supervisor for every group of six volunteers under 18 years of age.
- Avoid horseplay during the cleanup to avoid accidents. No pushing, jumping, play-fighting, or waving garbage pickers.
- Don’t overfill your bag! It’s satisfying to fill them up, but not so satisfying to carry them once you do!

### Natural Hazards
- Look out for poison ivy or thorny plants, and do not eat any berries or mushrooms you find.
- Do not enter high vegetation—these areas can be home to snakes and other wildlife.
- Make sure to check the forecast and have an exit plan in the event of bad weather.
- Do not enter streams, ponds, lakes, marshes, or other bodies of water.

### Avoid Dangerous Litter!

Do not pick up dangerous items, which includes razor blades, syringes or needles, household hazardous waste (HHW), dead animals, condoms, weapons, and unlabeled chemical containers.

**Kids:** If you find dangerous litter, stay away! Tell an adult!

**Adults:** If you find weapons, please the Kansas City Police Department’s non-emergency line at: 816-234-5111.
If you find chemicals, HHW, or dead animals in the open, please call 311 or call 816-513-7525.