



Environmental policy

Introduction and aim

Holmes Tree Services is an Arborist business, operating from a site in Milton Keynes. Our main services are Tree Surgery, Hedge, Maintenance and Stump Grinding. We recognise that our operations result in emissions to air and water, and the generation of waste. It is our aim to comply with legislation and other requirements, continue to reduce the environmental impacts of our business and operate in an environmentally responsible manner. This policy describes how we will achieve our aim.

Responsibility

This environmental policy applies to all of our operations including management, office services, site operations, and procurement. Robert Holmes has overall responsibility for ensuring that sufficient resources are made available to enable the business to achieve our environmental objectives and targets and that the policy is implemented.

Robert Holmes has the day to day responsibility for ensuring that the requirements of this policy are being followed and for monitoring the effectiveness of the objectives. However, all employees have a responsibility in their area to ensure that the aims and objectives of the policy are met.

Objectives

During 2024 and 2025 we aim to:

- Meet our duty of care requirements in relation to waste by ensuring the safe keeping, transportation and subsequent recovery or disposal of waste
- Wherever possible waste will be utilised as a renewable energy source in biomass. Alternatively wood chip may be put back onto the land as a mulch where it will benefit the local Eco-system. Mature timber may be stacked for use by the owner or occupier of the land as a source of fuel or as a habitat. Unwanted logs will be removed and stored for firewood by Holmes Tree Services.
- Keep transport use to a minimum and regularly service vehicles to maintain their efficiency
- Work with suppliers to ensure they recognise and reduce the environmental impact of their products and transportation
- Include environmental considerations in investment decisions for new plant, equipment or working practices
- Use battery operated chainsaws where reasonably practicable
- Inform and train all employees of the companies' environmental objectives and how they can assist in meeting targets
- Use the most environmentally friendly cleaning products whenever possible

- Endeavour to operate in a way that minimises the effects of their work on the natural and local environmental infrastructure.
- Carry out Site Specific Wildlife risk assessments prior to work being undertaken.
- Minimise the risk of transmission and spread of harmful organisms and infectious diseases to animals and plants through Biosecurity risk assessments.
- Brief employees on injurious plants, animals and protected species as part of the Wildlife and Ecology Risk assessment

Targets

To achieve our aims, we have set ourselves the following targets:

- Reduce vehicle emissions to air by the scheduling of work to reduce mileage and servicing all vehicles
- Recycle as much paper, cardboard, plastic and metal waste generated in the office as possible
- Reduce paper usage by increasing the use of e-mail and electronic documentation
- Reduce energy consumption by monitoring energy usage and training staff on basic housekeeping

Monitoring and auditing

Progress against these objectives will be monitored through a number of mediums including:

- Annual management review of this environmental policy and any associated environmental procedures
- The monitoring of environmental objectives and targets
- Monthly management meetings.

Incident reporting

All environmental incidents must be reported to the Environmental agency via telephone 0800 80 70 60.

Oak Processionary Moth Caterpillars found, must be reported to the Forestry Commission via opm@forestrycommission.go.uk

Whilst carrying out work on a subcontract basis all environmental incidents must be reported the companies line manager.

Communication

This environmental policy is available at 1 Park Close, Cosgrove, Milton Keynes, MK19 7JN. All members of staff will receive training on the environmental responsibilities of their role and will be informed of any updates or revisions via e-mail or team meetings.

Signed: K.Holmes **Name:** Kirsty Holmes **Position:** Director **Date:** 15th December 2023

Policy Reviewed	Any amendments	Name	Signature
15.12.2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of battery operated chainsaws 	Kirsty Holmes	<i>K.Holmes</i>

