



Biosecurity Policy

Holmes Tree Services are committed to promoting and implementing effective biosecurity practices in all areas of our arboricultural work. We recognise our professional responsibility to protect biodiversity, amenity value, and the sustainability of trees, woodlands, and the wider natural environment from the introduction and spread of harmful organisms, pests, pathogens and diseases. Our objective is to ensure all staff, subcontractors, and clients understand, are compliant with and apply biosecurity measures as part of everyday working practices, adhering to national biosecurity standards, guidance and advice from the Forestry Commission, DEFRA, and the Arboricultural Association.

Holmes tree services aim to;

- Ensure all staff and sub-contractors receive training and guidance on biosecurity best practice.
- Provide appropriate cleaning and disinfection equipment, PPE, and disposal facilities.
- Conduct site-specific biosecurity checks prior to work.
- Ensure staff follow the procedures outlined in this policy.
- Report any sightings or suspicions of pest or disease outbreaks.

To achieve this Holmes Tree Services will implement the following measures:

Before Attending Site: -

1. Review any known pest or disease alerts relevant to the area or tree species.
2. Ensure all tools, boots, and vehicles are clean and free from soil or organic matter.
3. Carry appropriate disinfection to materials (e.g., disinfectant spray, boot brushes).

On Site: -

1. Complete a pre site specific Biodiversity Risk Assessment.
2. Establish clean and dirty zones if contamination risk is present.
3. Minimise soil disturbance where possible.
4. Avoid cross-contamination between infected and non-infected areas.
5. Collect and safely dispose of all arisings and waste in accordance with site-specific biosecurity instructions.

After Leaving Site:

1. Thoroughly clean all equipment, tools, PPE, and vehicles before visiting another site.
2. Dispose of wash water and debris responsibly.
3. Record any biosecurity actions in the site risk assessment

Holmes Tree Services encourages staff and sub-contractors to report any signs of disease, invasive species, or pest presence to management immediately. Where applicable, findings will be reported to the Forestry Commission’s Tree Alert system or other relevant authority.

All staff and subcontractors will receive biosecurity awareness training as part of their induction and ongoing professional development. Toolbox talks, posters, and site briefings will reinforce the importance of maintaining high biosecurity standards. Holmes Tree Services will also promote good practice by sharing information with clients, contractors, and the wider community to encourage responsible arboriculture practices.

Holmes Tree Services are dedicated to continuous improvement in biosecurity management and will update practices accordingly.

Name: K.Holmes **Signature:** Kirsty Holmes. **Position:** Director **Date:** 21/10/2025

| Policy Reviewed | Any amendments | Name | Signature |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |