

Thames Valley Landscapes Environmental Policy

At Thames Valley Landscapes, we acknowledge that it is our duty to deliver our activities and services with due regard for the environment, ensuring that any potential impact is minimised and off-set where possible. We are committed to making sure that our practices comply with all relevant environmental legislation, guidelines, industry standards and specific customer requirements.

We have implemented the following policies in an effort to reduce our environmental impact:

1.) Minimise Waste

- a. Constantly evaluate our operations and ensure that they are as efficient as possible.
- b. Actively promote recycling both internally and amongst our customers and suppliers including but not limited to all plastic, cardboard, wood and metal.
- c. Re-use and recycle as much waste on-site as possible. Including re-using paving, hardcore and building bunds to reduce waste away and use bark mulch from tree felling for shrub beds, paths and wilderness areas.
- d. Compost all-natural waste and then re-use it on vegetable and shrub beds. All leaf and grass cuttings are composted on-site.

2.) Minimise Emissions and reduce energy consumption

- a. Guarantee the safe handling and storage of all chemicals and waste materials as a means of preventing pollution.
- b. Encourage the use of multi-person vehicles and champion lift-sharing at all times.
- c. Careful selection and use of our fleet and power sources.
- d. Source our materials from local suppliers wherever possible.

3.) Adopt Natural and Sustainable Practices

- a. Use natural products in all our services and avoid chemicals wherever possible e.g. seaweed and garlic treatments for lawncare, sand as moss deterrent and always opting for reduced peat and peat-free compost.
- b. Promote the planting of trees and if any tree has fallen or needs to be felled, at least 2 will be planted in its place.
- c. Implement practices to reduce water usage e.g. encourage customers to spread chipped bark onto shrub beds to keep moisture in the ground and promote the collection and storage of rainwater.
- d. Preference for working with sustainable suppliers e.g. sustainably sourced timber products, fair trade paving and opting for no or natural packaging where possible.
- e. Encourage local wildlife by leaving fallow areas where possible, recommend the planting of food source plants and wildflower areas and looking after hedgerows responsibly i.e. preventing hedge trimming in the spring during bird nesting season and inspecting hedges before trimming to ensure nesting has finished.

4.) Communication

- a. On-site training for all staff to raise awareness of environmental issues and enlist their support in improving the company's performance.
- b. Encourage the adoption of similar principles by suppliers.
- c. Ensure that this policy is communicated to all within the business to make sure that they are fully conversant with and able to assist Thames Valley Landscapes in achieving ever higher standards of operation to enhance their environmental performance.



Mark Pateman, Director

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