

National Trust Environmental Site Rules:

What?

The National Trust operates a Climate & Environmental Management System (CEMS) and requires any Contractors carrying out work on National Trust property to follow a set of rules.

Why?

We need to manage, minimise, and mitigate the environmental impacts of our activities. Reasons for doing this include:

- Our duty as a conservation charity to protect the environment and to mitigate climate change.
- Our visitors and members expectations that we operate in an environmentally responsible manner.
- Our requirement to comply with environmental legislation and other compliance obligations

How?

Contractors must follow these basic rules to help us maintain our environmental performance:

- All contractors must familiarise themselves with our [Climate and Environment Policy](#) that sets out our ambitions and targets for improving our environmental performance. It includes the commitments to use resources efficiently to reduce waste and to prevent pollution.
- We do not use peat at any of our properties and, wherever possible, all plants sourced for planting or sale are 100% peat-free. We do not to use peat for mulching or soil improvement in our gardens. All these commitments apply to our contractors too.
- All persons carrying out activities should be competent to do so and provide necessary evidence (e.g., PA1 and PA6 Pesticide Spraying Qualification).
- All plant must be inspected before use to ensure it is fit for purpose and well maintained.
- Appropriate storage and containment measures must be put in place for any substances brought onto site.
- Drip trays must be used for any standing plant and refuel away from drains and water courses e.g., for chippers, generators, film crew machinery etc.
- Spillages must be cleaned up immediately using appropriate spill response equipment.
- All spillages or other environmental incidences should be recorded, including photographic evidence, and reported to your National Trust contact.
- Refer any enquiries or complaints from the public to your National Trust contact.
- Contractors removing waste from site must provide their National Trust contact with carrier licenses and completed transfer notes.
- Any hazardous waste must be segregated and not put in with normal waste. Hazardous materials (e.g., used engine oil, oil filters, grease cartridges, chemicals, paints, solvents, fluorescent light bulbs, asbestos, surplus herbicides etc) must be disposed of using a licensed carrier with consignment notes as evidence.

- Contractors appointed for spraying must keep pesticide usage records and ensure any appropriate permissions are in place before commencing work.
- No discharges may be made to ground, groundwater, or any watercourses unless permission is gained from the Environment Agency, National Resources Wales or Northern Ireland Environment Agency and your National Trust contact.
- Under no circumstances must surplus paints, solvents, chemicals etc ever be disposed of down any drain.
- Contractors must follow the conditions of any Environmental Permits or registered exemptions that may be in place.
- Waste must not be burnt on site in any circumstances.
- Contractors must minimise air pollution by avoiding the use of diesel or petrol generators and should ensure vehicles are switched off when not moving.
- Damage to plants and wildlife must be avoided. Check with your National Trust contact for the presence of any protected species e.g., bats, badgers, etc.
- Do not disturb nesting birds.
- There should be no scrub clearance or hedge cutting between the 1st March and 1st September.