

Overview

This standard is for those who manage planted areas in order to keep them in an appropriate condition, in keeping with the use and purpose of the area.

If you are working with chemicals or machinery you should be trained and hold current certification where required in line with relevant legislation.

You must carry out your work in a way which will minimise the impact on the natural environment and enhance its nature, conservation and recreational value.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the management of planted area
2. confirm that suitable clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) is worn
3. carry out an environmental assessment of the planted areas before starting work
4. check the plan and specifications for details of activities required to manage the planted areas
5. select, prepare, use and maintain equipment required for carrying out the management of planted areas safely and correctly
6. carry out management activities to the planted area in accordance with specifications
7. assess the results of management activities, confirming objectives and standards have been achieved
8. leave the planted areas in an undamaged and tidy condition following management activities
9. keep damage to the surrounding area and environmental pollution to a minimum
10. maintain communication with colleagues and others involved in, or affected by, the management of planted areas
11. dispose of or recycle waste and excess materials safely in accordance with relevant legal requirements and to minimise environmental risk
12. complete records as required by the organisation
13. carry out your work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and organisational policies

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks when managing planted areas
2. the type of clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for the activity
3. the importance of carrying out an environmental assessment of the planted areas before carrying out the management activities and the findings which must be reported
4. how to select, prepare, use and maintain equipment required for the management of planted areas safely and correctly
5. the importance of completing management activities for planted areas in accordance with specifications
6. the variety of purposes and uses of planted areas and how these affect their management
7. the stages of plant development
8. how to carry out management activities for planted areas
9. signs of damage or threats to the health of plants within the planted areas and the required action to take
10. the importance of identifying plants, grasses, turf and trees when carrying out management of planted areas
11. the importance of identifying weeds, pests, diseases and disorders and what action to take when managing planted areas
12. the potential impact of your work on the environment and how to minimise this
13. how to handle, transport and dispose of waste in accordance with relevant legal and organisational requirements
14. the typical problems that may arise when managing planted areas and how to deal with these
15. who to refer problems to when they are outside your area of responsibility
16. the records that need to be completed when managing planted areas
17. the importance of following environmental and ecological best practice to help minimise the impact of your work on the environment
18. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and organisational policies

Scope/range

- A. manage the following types of planted areas:
1. shrub areas
 2. scrub
 3. bedding
 4. herbaceous
 5. hedges
 6. amenity turf
- B. carry out the following management activities:
1. pruning
 2. trimming
 3. training
 4. thinning out
 5. tying in
 6. renovating
 7. removing and replacing
 8. spraying
 9. weed control
 10. pest control
 11. disease control
 12. feeding/watering
 13. mulching
 14. soil amelioration
 15. strimming
 16. mowing
- C. identify the following threats to promote plant health:
1. pests
 2. diseases
 3. disorders
 4. unfavourable conditions
 5. competing growth

Glossary

Instructions: verbal or written.

Management activity includes pruning/trimming/training, thinning out, tying in, renovation, removal, replacement, spraying, weed control, pest control, disease control, feeding, mulching, soil amelioration, strimming, mowing.

Specifications: drawings, schedules, method statements, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manufacturers' guidelines, customer requirements, organisational policies

The areas may have been created by planting or by natural regeneration and could include woodlands, orchards, parks, grounds, gardens or wildlife habitats.

Manage planted areas

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