

Prepare and maintain a safe working site for treework operations

Overview

This standard is about preparing and maintaining a safe working site for treework operations. The standard includes the safe preparation and maintenance of treework sites, supporting and assisting colleagues and the disposal of arisings.

Anyone involved in the positioning of warning signs on public highways needs to be supervised by a qualified person under relevant legislation.

Your work must conform to all relevant legislation and codes of practice when carrying out this work.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed work
2. select and implement appropriate working methods in accordance with the assessed risks
3. select and use the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
4. select, prepare and use the appropriate tools and equipment, safely and effectively
5. confirm all equipment has been checked and is fit for purpose
6. communicate effectively with all those involved throughout your work
7. prepare and lay out the work site for safe treework operations
8. implement the appropriate controls to maintain safe treework operations
9. implement environmental controls taking account of the assessment of the environmental impacts and aspects
10. maintain the safety and security of machinery and equipment on site
11. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times, in accordance with relevant legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. how to interpret risk assessments
3. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment (PPE)
4. the types of tools and equipment required and how to maintain and use these safely and effectively in line with the manufacturer's recommendations
5. the legal requirements for checking equipment
6. the key elements of a method statement in relation to safe treework operations
7. how to prepare and lay out sites for safe and effective working
8. the correct location and positioning of warning signs and access controls, and the legislative requirements and industry codes of practice governing these
9. how the species and condition of trees affects operations
10. the potential impact of your work on the environment and the environmental controls that can be used to minimise this
11. why it is important to maintain the safety and security of equipment and vehicles on site
12. your responsibilities under relevant environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Manage the safety and security on site of:

- climbing aids
- pruning tools
- lowering gear
- fuel
- vehicles and machinery
- materials

Glossary

Work areas – covers fuelling and disposal to ensure safe and efficient working

Environmental controls, impacts and aspects – bats, badgers, water courses, noise, fauna, flora

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Developed by	Lantra
Version Number	2
Date Approved	February 2017
Indicative Review Date	February 2021
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Lantra
Original URN	LANTw14
Relevant Occupations	Arboriculture and forestry; Coppicing; Chainsaw and forest machine operators; Park Ranger; Horticulture and forestry
Suite	Treework
Keywords	safety; security; operations; treework; sites