



Sustainability Policy

Introduction:

We recognise that our business operations can have a negative impact on the environment. We deeply care about the environment and are committed to continuing to understand that impact and what we can positively change to create a long term, sustainable way forward for the business.

Our sustainability principles:

- Ensure all staff are aware of and adhere to this policy and encourage them to seek new and better ways to impact our environmental footprint and increase sustainability.
- To consider the environment in all of our business decisions.
- To maintain the highest standard for the safety of our staff, customers and the environment with professional industry memberships with organisations including the UK Lawn Care Association and Grounds Management Association, plus accreditations with BASIS Lawn Assured and the Amenity Standard.
- To collaborate with suppliers on their products, packaging and delivery approaches to see how they can reduce their environmental impact. For instance, compostable plastic bags for organic top dressing.

Our Policy:

- To only use organic or organic based slow release fertilisers which have a lower environmental impact at the point of manufacture and contain sustainable organic content that will benefit both the lawn and soil health. The slow release products significantly reduce the loss of fertiliser to the environment (volatilisation into the atmosphere or leaching into watercourses). We will not use polymer plastic coated controlled release fertilisers.
- We plan the fertiliser nutrient inputs over a complete year. This allows us to reduce the amount of nitrogen nutrient applied to customer lawns as excess just causes the grass to grow too much, needing more mowing (and pollution or consumption of energy) with no direct benefit to the overall grass plant health.
- To limit the use of all pesticides by following best practices and Integrated Pesticide Management (IPM). Pesticides are only used when needed and in combination with other approaches for more effective, long-term control. Pesticides are selected and applied in a way that minimises their possible harm to people, non-target organisms, and the environment. This includes spot spraying weeds where possible in the appropriate weather conditions and time of year.
- To operate a paperless system as much as possible, inducing focussing on digital rather than paper based marketing. Our primary communication to customers is by email for appointments, invoices, lawn condition reports and helpful lawn care advice. We have a customer portal available for self service and the majority of customers use automated card payments.

- To use job routing software to optimise customer visits to use the least mileage, reduce fuel consumption and pollution.
- To plan stock in advance to enable bulk orders to be delivered, reducing road haulage and pollution.
- To avoid the purchase and use of single use plastics..
- To purchase items made with a lower environmental impact, containing recycled plastic or paper, where that choice is available.
- To utilise good housekeeping with the office and storage spaces, with low energy light bulbs, reduction in heating, only printing when essential and ensuring electrical items are powered off at the end of the working day.
- Recycle as much waste material as possible, primarily plastic fertiliser bags, plastic wrapping and cardboard and wooden pallets.
- Use video and phone calls as the primary method for business meetings, rather than travel.
- To actively follow technology improvements in our industry for implementing environmentally friendly machinery and products. This includes battery powered vehicles, machinery and equipment.
- To innovate with continued research and development of environmentally beneficial services. For instance our rewilding service creates small spaces of sustainable biodiversity in urban lawns utilising wildflowers without the need for pesticides.