

Environmental Policy

The Directors of Johnsons of Whixley Ltd are committed to the Environmental Policy of the company, and whilst directors are directly responsible for the implementation of the policy within their areas of specific responsibility, the Chairman and Group Managing Director are ultimately responsible. There is an obligation throughout the company to commit to full compliance with the legal and social responsibilities of the environmental code of conduct, which is managed by employee training, staff education and management motivation.

Johnsons of Whixley Ltd. is one of the largest wholesale tree and shrub nurseries in the UK, supplying in excess of 10 million trees and shrubs annually for use in private and public gardens, business parks, trunk road planting, woodland establishment and regeneration, and a wide range of schemes designed to preserve and enhance the environment.

Plants make a positive contribution to the environment by improving the surroundings in which we live and work, both aesthetically and as a means of reducing carbon dioxide, pollutants, noise, water run-off and wind-speed, whilst at the same time providing summer shade and a comprehensive and natural wild-life habitat. The quality and fitness for purpose of such products is the keystone on which the company has grown and will continue to be a prime incentive.

Johnsons of Whixley Ltd will continue to improve products and services whilst reducing environmental impact through the intelligent and responsible use of technology, the efficient use of internal and external transport, water, energy, and the reduction of waste in all forms. Contributing directly to a wide range of research and development programs, Johnsons of Whixley Ltd take advantage of many of the latest advances in technology to implement environmentally preferable techniques and opportunities, particularly in the reduced use of water, peat, and chemicals for pest control purposes, to ensure continual improvement. Some objectives are limited by financial constraints.

Packing materials are re-used or re-cycled where possible. Activities on site are reviewed to ensure that polluting activities in relation to plant production, distribution, and site management are minimised or prevented, and general working procedures attempt to limit the wasteful use of all resources. A conscious effort is made to limit the impact of the company on neighbours and the surrounding environment.

A determination to prevent or limit the spread of pests and diseases to the best of their ability will remain a constant endeavour of the company, in conjunction with responsible employees, plant health agencies and appropriate legislation. The company will respect and support the biosecurity policies of DEFRA, APHA, and other Government Plant Health bodies.

Johnsons of Whixley Ltd will continue to be actively engaged in the recycling of waste products encountered on site, subject to economic and appropriate facilities in the region. The company continues to be actively involved in a process to reduce the peat content of growing compost by direct discussions with DEFRA managers and the extended trials of peat free composts with a number of research stations. Similar work continues in relation to the use of water and alternatives to chemical pest control.

The objectives of Johnsons of Whixley Ltd, whilst maintaining registration to ISO14001, indicate their commitment to the environment, and the addition of this standard to their ISO 9001 quality system (achieved in 1991) implies the realistic ability of the company to achieve such goals. The 'Environment' appears as a standard agenda item of the Management Group meetings, which are attended by directors, unit managers and section heads. Environmental matters are referred to in the staff newsletter.

This policy is communicated to staff and relevant interested parties via the web-site and noticeboards.

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