

Sustainable construction is your business

The Top 10 Things you need to do to:

-  **Save money**
-  **Avoid prosecution and delays**
-  **Stay in business**

1. Make use of grants or funding available for sustainable construction

- Contact your Local Authority or Regional Development Agency about local projects and grants.
- Employers registered with CITB-ConstructionSkills can claim Training Plan or Short Duration grant to support sustainability training.
- The Government has produced a list of sustainable development related funding. Visit www.sustainable-development.gov.uk



2. Use recycled or sustainable materials whenever possible

- Give preference to locally produced products.
- Crushed concrete and brick can be used to replace primary aggregates and avoid Aggregates Tax.
- Use timber only from sustainably managed woodland – ask for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) timber.



3. Consider your site neighbours

- Consult your site neighbours before and during any construction work.
- Muffle noisy equipment and locate as far away as possible from residential areas.
- Avoid dust by keeping the site tidy and materials covered.



4. Only order the materials you need and store them safely

- Plan ahead when ordering materials.
- Work with suppliers/manufacturers to minimise and return packaging and pallets.
- Store materials in a secure and protected area and keep liquids/sands away from drains.



5. Minimise road journeys to and from the site

- Use local suppliers wherever possible.
- Plan deliveries to site: during the day time in residential areas and at night in city centres.
- Ensure your van can carry a variety of small materials to prevent unnecessary trips to suppliers.



Did you know?

The Envirowise programme offers UK construction companies free, independent, confidential advice and support on practical ways to increase profits.

www.envirowise.gov.uk

0800 585 794

6. Keep up to date with new legislation and technologies

- Incorporate new legal requirements into your procedures and practices.
- Check www.netregs.gov.uk for advice on environmental legislation or www.ciria.org/complianceplus for environmental good practice in construction.
- Talk to suppliers/manufacturers about new environmentally friendly and sustainable products.



7. Separate and recycle waste then dispose of the remainder legally

- Separate different types of waste and mark containers clearly.
- Recycle as much as possible.
- Use registered waste carriers and keep the paperwork.



8. Avoid causing pollution to land, water or air

- Stop uncontrolled water entering or leaving excavations, especially run-off from earth works.
- Avoid spillages on site and clean up if accidents happen.
- Don't burn waste materials – recycle or dispose of them responsibly.



9. Protect the natural environment, biodiversity and heritage

- Identify and safeguard important or protected areas.
- Work with local nature conservation, heritage or environmental groups.
- Plan and design work to avoid damage to habitats and take immediate action in the event of damage occurring.



10. Ensure the health and safety of those on site and the local community during construction

- Ensure noise, fumes, dust, effluents, gases etc are minimised.
- Ensure your workforce is aware of working practices and understands the hazards on site.
- Provide good welfare facilities.



Did you know?

A company was ordered to pay almost £3,800 for failing to dispose of paints and inks legally.

Did you know?

In the UK an average of 13% of all materials delivered to site go into the skip without ever being used.