



Litter and fly-tipping



Urban Woodland Management series

This guide is one of a series produced by the Woodland Trust, the UK's leading woodland conservation charity, as a resource for managers creating or managing urban woods. These *Urban Woodland Management Guides* are based on the Trust's many years' experience of managing such sites across the UK and have been written by experienced urban woodland site managers.

From a management perspective, 'urban' woods are probably best defined as those that suffer a high level of public use and misuse. These pressures are often no different to those in any other wood with public access. However the key difference between urban sites and those in a more rural situation is both the sheer scale of pressure and public's expectations of site management.

Woods can be used not only for informal recreation but also as children's playgrounds and through routes to shops, work or school. Due to their proximity to housing, minor encroachments, garden dumping, vandalism and complaints about weeds can become commonplace. This can result in high workloads and loss of motivation for site managers and high management costs merely to maintain the *status quo*. These guides outline strategies that the Woodland Trust has implemented to deal with such problems with both proactive and reactive approaches.

The Trust welcomes feedback on these guides, including different tactics you or your organisation may have tried, so that the contents remain as relevant and up to date as possible. Please e-mail the Trust at:

urbanwoodland@woodland-trust.org.uk

Copies of this guide and others in the series can be downloaded from the Trust's website: **www.woodland-trust.org.uk**

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Introduction

Litter and fly-tipping are major issues in urban woods and can result in considerable annual expenditure. Sites with large amounts of litter are perceived as badly cared for and neglected, but this is often not the case. It is important that site managers do not become demoralised when faced with a continual litter problem and complaints from the general public, which can be time consuming and difficult to deal with.

Defining the issues

Litter is ‘anything’ that is left, thrown, dropped or deposited and causes defacement in a *public* place. The offence of littering relates to what is *done* with the litter, rather than what it is.

Waste can be anything a person owns or a business produces that they want to dispose of – materials destined for further use are included.

Fly-tipping is putting litter or waste anywhere where it does not belong. Offenders can be fined up to £20,000 or sent to prison for up to six months or both under current legislation in the United Kingdom. Fly-tipping includes anything from three-piece suites, old mattresses and builders’ waste through to bags of household rubbish and garden waste. Besides the obvious negative impact on the appearance of the wood, fly-tipping can also include materials hazardous to both humans and wildlife.

Litter, fly-tipping and the law

The following text is advisory and intended only as a synopsis of the law. It does not cover all legal issues involved. Full texts must be consulted and advice sought before instigating any legal action.

1. Government agencies

The main governing bodies involved in waste control in the UK are:

- **England and Wales** – Environment Agency;
- **Scotland** – Scottish Environment Protection Agency;
- **Northern Ireland** – Environment and Heritage Service.

In this Guide they are referred to as the ‘appropriate agency’, please take this to mean one of these three agencies depending on the woodland location.

2. Local authorities

In England and Wales, according to the Department of the Environment's *Council and the Environment. The model Local Environment Charter 1996*, you can:

'Complain to the council about fly-tipping – illegally dumped rubbish. Your council may get it cleared and they may be able to take the suspect to court.'

Under examples of good council practice it includes:

'Removing any fly-tipping within 24 hours of being told about it.'

(In England, Wales and Scotland incidents of fly-tipping can also be reported to the Environment Agency's and Scottish Environment Protection Agency's free hotline number: 0800 807060.)

3. The legislation

All waste in the UK is subject to strict controls, only registered waste carriers are allowed to recover, transport, deposit or dispose of waste. The public has a right to deposit waste only at an officially authorised site such as a council tip. Disposal of waste anywhere else is an offence and can lead to a fine of up to £20,000 or imprisonment.

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 makes the dropping of litter and fly-tipping an offence in England, Wales and Scotland. However because the Woodland Trust's properties are classed as private land, the offence of leaving litter, covered under Section 87 of the Act, does not apply. The laws relating to fly-tipping do apply to private as well as public land, and under Section 99 of the Act local authorities can collect abandoned shopping (and luggage) trolleys, store them and charge the owners for their return.

In Scotland a Private Member's Bill is currently being considered that will make it an offence to fly-tip and drop litter on any land.

In Northern Ireland, the Litter Order 1994 makes the dropping of litter and fly-tipping an offence, with no distinction between private and public land.

Tackling the issues



< Fly-tipping can be harmful to both humans and wildlife.

Site managers have several weapons available to them in the war against litter and fly-tipping and, even if not completely eradicated, the problem can at least be controlled to an acceptable level.

- Check any dumped material for evidence that may identify the offender (such as junk mail or other correspondence containing an address), ensuring you or your contractor take adequate Health and Safety measures.
- Some fly-tipping, such as an old mattress, may have been transported some distance and may be difficult to trace back to the offender. Garden waste, however, usually comes from neighbouring properties and can often be tracked back to its source; it may have been simply tipped over the fence. In other cases, a walk around the neighbourhood will often reveal the waste's origin, such as a newly cut hedge or a pruned tree.
- Bear in mind that many people think garden waste is natural and will rot away; they do not appreciate that it can be just as damaging as dumping household rubbish. A more diplomatic approach than when dealing with other fly-tipping issues is therefore needed.
- Where fly-tipping is being generated by houses surrounding a wood, try to get hold of the local council's information on waste disposal services. Pass these details on to local residents through fliers, targeted letters, etc. Inform them of where their local tip is; if the waste disposal service takes garden rubbish and, if so, how much and how it should be presented for disposal; a contact number for the collection of larger waste items and what, if any, charge is made for this service.
- If fly-tipping is identified with a particular house or business (for instance, it is directly behind the fence or wall), contact the local Environmental Health Department. The officer for the area can approach the occupiers of the property and ask them to remove the material or face prosecution.

However, if the occupiers deny liability, it is unlikely that any offence can be proven and the responsibility for removal will fall to the landowner.

- The dumping of free newspapers is a frequent problem in many woods, often by the distributor's employees. On finding dumped newspapers, note the name, date and issue number of the publication and look for a contact number for the publishers and/or distributor. If unsuccessful, check the local *Yellow Pages* under 'Newspaper publishers'. Inform the distributor where the dumping has occurred, and they should send someone out to remove the piles of papers. Be certain you have sufficient information to hand for them to find the location.
- Litter wardens may be able to help you with your fly-tipping problems, ask your local authority to find out if they employ one.
- Mark the names or numbers of the houses around the wood on a map. The properties where problems are occurring can then be identified easily and an address obtained for correspondence.
- Maintain a list of contractors, who are authorised to remove waste, especially ones that can deal with hazardous or toxic waste. *Note:* it is your responsibility to ensure that persons removing waste are authorised to do so, except for council waste collectors. All waste collectors used should be registered with the relevant government agency. Be sure that the licence held by a contractor covers them for the waste that needs removing. Waste does not have to be hazardous or toxic to be classed as controlled waste – household, commercial or industrial waste also fall into this category.

Involving the local community

Local people are often the key to dealing with litter and fly-tipping in urban woods. Contact with the community shows them that the landowner has a local representative who is monitoring the woodland, and that the litter or fly-tipping problem is not a lost cause. Do not forget many of the locals are probably as keen to tackle the issue as you are, involving them can help to create a sense of ownership and responsibility in the community that will, in turn, benefit the wood.

- A standard letter can be circulated to residents close to the wood. It should explain the problems that fly-tipping can cause and that it is illegal. If the site has a rich ground flora, such as bluebells, point this out and describe the damage fly-tipping can do to the flowers. Many people

genuinely believe they are not doing anything wrong, particularly when dumping garden rubbish. The standard letter will address this misconception and may prick their consciences; it will need to be circulated regularly. (See Appendix One for an example of a standard letter.)

- A standard poster highlighting the problem can be put up in the wood but it must be replaced regularly. (See Appendix Two for an example.) A reliable contractor and/or local contact can prove invaluable.
- The local press can be useful allies in raising awareness and combating the problem. Human stories are likely to be of most interest but, when angled they can get across a wider conservation message.
- Use every opportunity (such as talks to local community groups, schools, community/parish councils) to highlight the problem and explain that you need their support. They may be able to come up with some new ideas!
- Team up with other organisations such as ENCAMS (formerly Tidy Britain Group), local schools, local housing trusts or the local council and organise a community clean-up day.
- Many people are happy to help deal with the litter and to carry a litter-picker/gloves and rubbish bag on their daily walk in the wood. (Note: Health and Safety issues must be discussed – in particular leave heavy items and contaminated waste, such as hypodermic needles, well alone.)
- Many partnership opportunities exist with local organisations. Local authorities and housing trusts will often collect unwanted items free of charge. If you can help them to promote this message, items likely to be fly-tipped are dealt with before they reach the woodland.

Preparing and supervising cleansing contracts

Site managers cannot always rely on the goodwill of the public to maintain woods reasonably free of litter. The first line of defence should be to set up an effective cleansing contract. This should address the problems of littering and fly-tipping in a cost-effective but thorough way. It is not possible to suggest a perfect template for a standard cleansing contract. A good format for a site or group of sites tends to evolve over a number of years. Many variables exist, such as quality of contractors, volume of litter and the site manager's priorities and circumstances.

One of the key issues to define before putting together a cleansing contract is the type of material that needs removing from the wood. In general waste dumped in woodland can be put into two categories – general litter and more problematic fly-tipping.

1. Litter collection

Litter collection focuses solely on litter and can be defined within a contract as:

'Anything that will fit into a standard refuse sack (ie objects as large as traffic cones and small tyres, but not supermarket trolleys, cookers, etc).'

Litter collection contracts can sometimes include additional specified items such as garden waste and artificial structures (children's dens, rope swings, etc).

Larger items such as supermarket trolleys, fridges and cookers are usually defined as fly-tipping and the contractor is required to report this to the site manager with a separate price for their removal.

2. Woodland cleansing

This is a catch-all specification and puts the onus on the contractor to deal with any foreign objects, material or fire sites found in the wood including items such as burnt-out cars. The cost of particularly serious incidents or unforeseen events that require large numbers of skips or a tow-trucks are normally borne by the landowner but the onus for the collection and removal of the object from site is on the contractor.

3. Quantitative contracts



< Larger items of rubbish can normally be defined as fly-tipping.

Many litter contracts are let on a quantitative basis. These contracts state a specific number of visits for a particular wood, ie wood 'X' to be visited twice in June and once in September.

The Woodland Trust Scotland has been issuing cleansing contracts based on the following quantitative specification on some of its large and complex urban woodland estates.

The work will involve a thorough cleanse of every woodland block once a month whereby all litter and all 'visible' garden waste is removed. After each monthly cycle, you will be expected to produce a report indicating the approximate number of bags of litter removed from each site and identifying the location and description of any fly-tipping with a quote for its removal. The fly-tipping report will be in the form of a copy of the 'X' town street map (12 copies enclosed) with numbered locations referring to a numbered list of items. Where fly-tipping is causing public concern and/or is an environmental or health hazard, you will be expected to remove all rubbish within 24 hours of a request by the supervising officer.

'Litter' will be defined as anything that will fit into a standard refuse sack (ie objects as large as traffic bollards and small tyres, but not supermarket trolleys, large amounts of builders' rubble, etc).

'Visible garden waste' is defined as all garden waste near entrances, paths or anywhere else visible to visitors or people passing through or by the sites. Garden fence boundaries are not expected to be cleared, unless they are visible from paths and/or entrances.

'Fly-tipping' is defined as anything else that does not fit into the above categories and would include children's dens and other unauthorised structures. Any dumped vehicles shall be reported immediately to the police, local authority and the site manager.

You will be expected to invoice the Woodland Trust Scotland after each monthly visit. This will be submitted at the same time as the report on the amount of litter removed and presence of fly-tipping. Payment will be made after the site manager is satisfied that the work has been carried out to the required standard.

Your quote should be in the form of a total fixed monthly price for removal of 'litter' and 'visible garden waste' from ALL blocks in 'X' town.

It is difficult to produce a strictly defined specification for a quantitative contract, and it is essential that you ensure the contractor has a clear understanding of what is required. For example, with the above specification, three tons of garden topsoil tipped at an entrance could be interpreted as 'visible garden waste'. However it would probably be unreasonable to expect the contractor to remove this waste within their fixed price. If you do expect this quantity to be removed, you must ensure the contractor is aware of this, as they will probably want to increase their quote to cover such unpredictable cost; it would be more reasonable to expect them to price such large quantities as 'fly-tipping'.

Although you obviously want as competitive a price as possible, in the long-term it is not in your interest for your contractor to feel that they are making an inadequate margin on the work; they will only cut corners elsewhere to make up for unforeseen costs. As with all contracts, developing a common understanding and sense of 'reasonableness' on both sides is essential.

Monitoring

It can be difficult to assess the quality of the work if you are not able to visit the site(s) for several weeks after the contractor has been in. Where you have a large number of sites covered by a contract, it is more practical to split these into geographical groups. As the contract progresses, you should ensure that the contractor informs you (even if only by phone) that group 'X' has been completed. (Four to five groups on a monthly cycle would mean checking one group per week.) Spot checks can be organised for these sites, perhaps with all litter 'hot spots' being checked and a random selection of other areas. At the same time the presence and type of fly-tipping can be noted to ensure that your contractor is being thorough in his regular report on fly-tipping and is giving realistic quotes.

Advantages

- A 'blanket' approach, with the same specification for all sites, is simple and there is little room for misunderstanding or confusion, which can result from using different regimes in different areas.
- When pricing the contract, the contractor does not have to consider fly-tipping, which can be one of the biggest variables from a cost point of view. The number of visits per year is clearly stated, and so they do not have to allow for unplanned visits in their price. This means that the contractor feels more comfortable about putting in a competitive quote, and the site manager also has a better basis for tender comparison.

Disadvantages

- The contract is not targeted at specific hot spots, and so some sites may not be cleansed often enough while others will be visited more often than necessary. However the Woodland Trust has found that a good contractor will recognise that 'litter attracts litter' and a site that is not cleansed often enough may attract a disproportionate increase in the amount they have to remove by the end of the month. Because they have quoted a fixed price (regardless of how much litter they remove), it is therefore in their interests to visit these sites more often, making up for the extra time by giving less problematic areas a more cursory inspection.
- Since the contractor does not have to price for fly-tipping, it is up to you to plan for this variable in your budgeting. The annual cost of fly-tipping will very much depend on the nature of the site(s) but, particularly when averaged over a large number of sites, can be remarkably consistent. After running such a contract for a number of years, you should be able to make a reasonably accurate estimate of the cost of fly-tipping removal.

4. Qualitative contracts

A set standard of cleanliness is agreed upon at the start in a qualitative contract, and at no point must the state of the wood drop below that standard.

The contractor is required to:

- Carry out a general site scavenge for litter and fly-tipping across the whole site
- All garden waste to be removed from site, with the exception of soil that is to be raked/scattered unobtrusively
- Clear all fire sites
- Remove all rope swings
- Remove all dens and tree houses
- Report all dumped vehicles to the relevant local authority

The contractor submits a price for each individual management unit (wood) and must work to an agreed set of standards. The Woodland Trust uses the following statement:

The Woodland Trust aims to ensure that all its woods have a well cared for appearance. It expects that all waste at the site will be removed and disposed of appropriately. Payment will only be made after the supervising officer is satisfied that the relevant work has been carried out. If requested, the contractor will alter the schedule at 24-hours notice if the supervising officer needs urgent action to be taken at any particular site.

Monitoring

The contractor is required to submit two reports each month:

Summary report covers the preceding month and will include the date when the site was cleansed. The contractor will also include any evidence of the origin of fly-tipping that has been identified.

Timetable schedules the coming month's visits to each site to the nearest day, this information enables the supervising officer to carry out spot checks after the cleansing has been completed.

Advantages

- The specification is comprehensive therefore all items, which are likely to be dumped in the wood, should be removed.
- The specification is clear, therefore the contractor should be in no doubt as to what is expected from them.
- Due to the comprehensive nature of the specification, the wood should be reasonably free of waste at all times.

- If you are not happy with the condition of the site, you can ask the contractor to go back to the site at 24-hours notice.

Disadvantages

- Due to the unpredictable nature of the specification, many contractors may not be keen to tender for a qualitative contract.
- Contractors may put in high quotes to try to cover themselves for all eventualities.

5. Monitoring contracts

Whatever contract is chosen, detailed monitoring is important to evaluate its effectiveness.

- The site manager must monitor the site as regularly as possible to ensure that cleansing is taking place. Spot checks of hot spots and random checks elsewhere by either staff or volunteers are necessary. The use of photography should be encouraged.
- Monitor levels of complaints from the general public. Most site managers have many more issues than litter to deal with and may find it difficult to visit their sites as often as they would like. However, if high levels of complaints are continually received from the public about litter at a particular site, it is safe to assume that the contract is not running as effectively as it should be.
- Exercise an element of control over your contractors; communicate regularly so that you know where they have been working and where they plan to go next.
- Make certain contractors submit any necessary reports on time.

6. Health and Safety issues

Cleansing contractors must have a valid and up-to-date waste carriers licence from the appropriate agency, which ensures they dispose of the waste correctly and legally. They must also supply an operational risk assessment for the work.

Hazards to be considered include:

- Hazardous chemicals
- Hazardous substances (asbestos etc)
- Sharps (needles etc)
- Heavy items
- Working close to roads
- Working in close proximity to the general public

7. Providing information for contractors

Advanced knowledge of tipping and litter hot spots will help the contractor price the contract and the site manager carry out effective spot checks. Areas such as schools, building sites and entrances close to housing tend to fall into this category.

The importance of good quality maps cannot be over emphasised. Boundaries and hot spots need to be clearly marked. This will ensure that the contractor knows where to concentrate their efforts, particularly on larger sites. It will also make sure that they do not stray from your land and start cleansing your neighbours!

8. Getting the best from the contract

Simplicity is important; complex contracts generate extra administration for all parties. Managing a single large contract with one contractor will be far less time consuming for the site manager. However finding the balance between the needs of the site and an attractive package for a reasonable bid is often dictated by local factors.

In reality to get the best value from local circumstances, the site manager must be able to shape contracts to suit their local requirements. It is therefore better to be aware of all the available options and to choose and tailor contracts to meet the needs of the wood.

Site managers need to try to build a positive working relationship with the contractor and ensure that they are clear as to exactly what is required of them. There is also a need to be flexible and understand that it may be difficult at times for a contractor to deal with the sheer amount of material been tipped at a site. In return contractors should communicate regularly with the site manager and be prepared to deal with the unexpected.

Installing site furniture and natural barriers

Many sites have entrances and boundaries that, due to their open nature, provide easy access for fly-tippers. Site managers should identify these vulnerable gaps and block them. Metal vehicle barriers, kissing gates, fences and the use of natural barriers, such as thorny shrubs and trees, can all help reduce the problem. Although initially costly, these features can often save money in the long run by reducing the cleansing commitments in a wood. However do not forget the needs of disabled people, those with pushchairs or horse riders and ensure their legitimate access routes are passable.

Preparing a case for prosecution

Taking a prosecution for fly-tipping should only be considered as a last resort as preparing a case can be difficult and expensive. It is important to remember, however, that successful prosecution can have a positive impact particularly if well publicised. The following points will help you present the best case.

- **Witnesses** or a witness to the incident is essential if a successful prosecution is to be pursued. Do your witnesses have any useful details - descriptions of the offenders, registration of any vehicles involved or any photographs of the incident in progress? It can be difficult finding people prepared to give evidence in court, most are understandably reluctant especially if neighbours are involved. It is possible to employ a professional witness, however this can be costly.
- **Record** details of the waste, where was it found, what it was and how it was dealt with.
- **Report** the incident to the local police, the local authority and the appropriate agency.
- **Photograph** the waste itself and take wider shots of its general location, preferably with a camera that prints the date on the photographs.
- **Be careful**, most fly-tippers know they are breaking the law. They have no desire to be prosecuted and will probably not want to discuss the incident amicably. It is not a good idea to approach these people. Also remember some waste may be toxic or hazardous to health.

Conclusion

The problem of littering and fly-tipping is one that is not likely to go away, however practical and effective measures can be taken to reduce the problem significantly.

First, it is important that site managers establish and regularly review their litter contracts to see how effective they are. If there are large volumes of waste on site when the wood is visited or complaints are received regularly from the public, something is wrong with the control mechanism being used.

Contact with the community through standard letters, posters, the media, housing associations and residents' groups will help to show that the site manager is aware of the problems and is not prepared to tolerate the site being misused in this way.

Individual residents who continually fly-tip into woodland can be targeted with a specific letter. Often the hint of prosecution is enough to stop them tipping in the wood.

Practical measures such as fences and barriers can be quite effective as they stop both vehicles and people gaining entry into the wood with heavy and unwieldy items such as cookers, fridges, freezers and sofas.

Law enforcement is something that many landowners and local authorities have been reluctant to undertake in the past. The laws on littering and dumping are complex; site managers should have an understanding of how it applies to their work on the ground. Bringing prosecutions is a costly and time-consuming business, however this factor must be weighed against the amount of money that is spent on cleansing every year.

Further reading

Lawton, R. 2001. *A-Z of Countryside Law*. London. The Stationary Office.

ENCAMS (formerly Tidy Britain Group) supply a range of leaflets relating to litter and the law, leaflets available from: Communications Department, ENCAMS, Elizabeth House, The Pier, Wigan, WN3 4EX. Telephone: 01942 612639
e-mail: information@encams.org; website: www.encams.org

Environmental Protection Act 1990. HMSO.

Website: www.legislation.hmsso.gov.co.uk/acts/acts1990

Waste Management: The Duty of Care, A Code of Practice. HMSO.

Appendix 1

Standard letter to residents



The Woodland Trust
Autumn Park
Dysart Road
Grantham
Lincolnshire
NG31 6LL
Telephone
01476 581111
Facsimile
01476 590808
Website
www.woodland-trust.org.uk

Dear Neighbour,

BLUEBELL WOOD - YOUR LOCAL WOODLAND

The Woodland Trust manages Bluebell Wood, the wood adjacent to your home. I am writing to you and to our other neighbours to highlight some of our aims and objectives, as well as the problems we face.

The Woodland Trust is a national environmental charity concerned solely with protecting Britain's woodland for people to enjoy and for their wildlife and landscape value. Urban woods, like Bluebell Wood, are under constant pressure due to the high number of visitors they receive and their close proximity to housing. The Woodland Trust spends many thousands of pounds annually trying to combat various common problems relating to the use of its woods – we urgently need your help.

ISSUES THAT PARTICULARLY CONCERN US:

Fly-tipping and dumping of garden rubbish

The disposal of rubbish in the wood can smother rare wild flowers and introduce faster-growing, more invasive garden plants. This can damage the whole ecology of this fragile site. Bluebell Wood is a stronghold for bluebells, which are an internationally rare species. In fact the UK contains a third of the world's population. If fly-tipping continues at the same level, they could well be lost from Bluebell Wood forever. The amount of fly-tipping is causing us great concern for the future of all the wildlife living there.

There is simply no excuse for fly-tipping in our wood. The local council will collect any unwanted bulky items such as fridges, cookers and furniture free of charge. Their contact number is *(enter number here)*.

In addition to threatening the future of the woodland, fly-tipping is illegal. Under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, offenders can be liable to heavy fines.

(Continued overleaf...)

100% recycled paper.

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Appendix 1

Standard letter to residents (continued)

Dog fouling

While dog owners are welcome to exercise their pets on our land, the Woodland Trust asks them to take a responsible attitude to the mess they leave. Apart from being a repellent substance, dog faeces pose a genuine health risk to humans and can cause a number of serious diseases, particularly in children. If you are a dog owner, please enjoy the woods and leave them clean for others to enjoy.

Dens, bike tracks, fires and vandalism

Dens, rope swings, fires and bike tracks invariably introduce rubbish into the wood and cause damage to wild flowers and trees that are sensitive to such disturbances. Although not necessarily malicious, these types of activity are not encouraged by the Woodland Trust.

What you can do to help

The Woodland Trust is a charity and relies heavily on members to help support its vital work in *(enter town/area here)* and the rest of Britain. We are always in need of new members and people willing to offer their help for a few hours each week.

We are always looking for voluntary wardens; these dedicated local people keep an eye on our woods and report any concerns or issues to us. At present we are short of voluntary wardens in the Bluebell Wood area and need more.

If you require any further information on the work of the Woodland Trust or Bluebell Wood, please contact our head office at Grantham.

Yours sincerely

(enter name here)



PLEASE HELP US LOOK AFTER Bluebell Wood

DON'T TIP HOUSEHOLD AND GARDEN RUBBISH!

In recent months large volumes of household and garden waste have been dumped in this important local wood. This type of rubbish can introduce additional nutrients and other elements to the soil. It upsets the natural balance of the woodland, introduces non-native invasive species can smother important wild flowers such as bluebells, and encourages pests such as rats into the woodland.

Tipping of this nature is also against the law under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Offenders can be liable to hefty fines.

As the Woodland Trust officer for this area, it is my role to care for Bluebell Wood and ensure it is a valuable asset for wildlife, visitors and local people living nearby.

If you have garden waste, please compost it or take it to your local recycling centre. Alternatively the local council will remove large bulky items free of charge.

Registered Office: The Woodland Trust, Autumn Park, Dysart Road, Grantham,
Lincolnshire, NG31 6LL
Telephone: 01476 581111 Registered Charity No. 294344

Keeping Woodland Alive



Useful contacts

ENCAMS (formerly Tidy Britain Group). See Further reading.

Environment Agency

general enquiries: 0845 9333111

emergency hotline: 0800 807060

e-mail: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

website: www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Environment and Heritage Service (Northern Ireland)

telephone: 028 9025 4754

e-mail: ep@doeni.gov.uk

website: www.ehsni.gov.uk

National Urban Forest Unit

The Science Park, Stafford Road, Wolverhampton, WN10 9RT.

telephone: 01902 828600

e-mail: info@nufu.org.uk

website: www.nufu.org.uk

Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Corporate Office, Erskine Court, Castle Business Park, Stirling FK9 4TR.

general enquiries: 01786 457700

emergency hotline: 0800 807060

e-mail: publicrelations@sepa.org.uk

website: www.sepa.org.uk

www.naturenet.net a useful site that includes information and links

Disclaimer

The information included within this publication is based on the experiences of Woodland Trust staff in managing its own woods. While its content is intended to broaden understanding in the management of urban woodland, the Woodland Trust does not accept liability for any errors or omissions, or for any loss arising from use of the information contained herein by other parties. In any circumstances outside the knowledge and competence of a site manager, he or she should always seek advice from an appropriate qualified professional such as a surveyor or solicitor depending on the case. None of the information in this document is to be relied upon as a statement of fact.



WOODLAND TRUST

The Woodland Trust was founded in 1972 and is the UK's leading woodland conservation organisation. The Trust achieves its aims through a combination of acquiring woodland and sites for planting and through advocacy of the importance of protecting ancient woodland, enhancing its biodiversity, expanding native woodland cover and increasing public enjoyment of woodland.

The Trust relies on the generosity of the public, industry, commerce and agencies to carry out its work. To find out how you can help, and about membership details, please contact one of the addresses below.

The Woodland Trust (Registered Office)

Autumn Park, Dysart Road
Grantham
Lincolnshire NG31 6LL

Telephone: 01476 581111
Facsimile: 01476 590808

The Woodland Trust Wales/Coed Cadw

Uned K, Yr Hen Orsaf
Llanidloes
Powys SY18 6EB

Telephone: 01686 412508
Facsimile: 01686 412176

The Woodland Trust Scotland

Glenruthven Mill, Abbey Road
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Urban woodland management guide 2: Litter and fly-tipping. The Woodland Trust 2002.
(www.woodland-trust.org.uk/policy/publications.htm)