

# **Ecology and Biodiversity Policy**

## **1. Introduction**

Riverside Building Supplies is committed to conducting its operations in an environmentally responsible manner, with a strong focus on conserving and enhancing the ecology and biodiversity in the areas where we operate. We recognize the importance of protecting and preserving our natural environment for current and future generations. This Ecology and Biodiversity Policy outlines our commitment to sustainable practices and sets forth our goals and strategies to minimize our impact on ecosystems and promote biodiversity.

## **2. Policy Statement**

Riverside Building Supplies is dedicated to the following principles and objectives regarding ecology and biodiversity:

### ***2.1. Compliance with Legal and Regulatory Requirements***

We will comply with all relevant environmental laws, regulations, and standards pertaining to ecology and biodiversity in the UK.

### ***2.2. Sustainable Sourcing of Timber***

We are committed to sourcing timber products from sustainably managed forests and suppliers that adhere to responsible forestry practices. This includes supporting organizations with credible certification systems, such as the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

### ***2.3. Reforestation and Afforestation***

Riverside Building Supplies will actively participate in reforestation and afforestation initiatives by planting trees in partnership with local conservation organizations to offset our timber consumption and enhance biodiversity.

### ***2.4. Minimizing Waste and Pollution***

We will continuously improve our operations to minimize waste generation and reduce pollution, thus safeguarding the health of ecosystems and aquatic environments. Furthermore, we use our waste products in various ways to reduce our total waste output.

### ***2.5. Education and Training***

We will educate our employees, contractors, and suppliers about the importance of ecology and biodiversity conservation and promote responsible practices within our industry.

## **3. Implementation**

To achieve the goals outlined in this policy, Riverside Building Supplies will:

### ***3.1. Sustainability Assessment***

Conduct regular assessments of our environmental impact, including our carbon footprint and ecological footprint, to identify areas for improvement.

### ***3.2. Sustainable Procurement***

Prioritise the procurement of timber and other products from suppliers who adhere to sustainable and responsible sourcing practices.

### ***3.3. Employee Engagement***

Engage employees in our ecological and biodiversity conservation efforts through training and encouraging responsible behaviour in their professional and personal lives.

### ***3.4. Communication and Reporting***

Regularly communicate our progress and achievements in implementing this policy to our stakeholders, including employees, customers, suppliers, and the public.

## ***4. Review and Continual Improvement***

We will review and update this Ecology and Biodiversity Policy as necessary to reflect changes in our operations, industry standards, and environmental regulations. We are committed to continually improving our practices and reducing our ecological impact.

## ***5. Conclusion***

Riverside Building Supplies is dedicated to being a responsible business by actively participating in the awareness and conservation of ecology and biodiversity. By implementing this policy and promoting sustainable practices throughout our organisation, we aim to play our part in protecting the natural environment for current and future generations. Together, we can make a meaningful difference in safeguarding the ecosystems and biodiversity of the natural world.

*Iain Armstrong*

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Managing Director

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