



BRAMPTON SKIP HIRE

Warren House Farm
Brampton
Cumbria
CA8 2HY

To be reevaluated
11/10/09

Our Ref: BHS/ES/002

Date: 12 October 2007

Environmental Strategy for Brampton Skip Hire

The Environmental Strategy for Brampton Skip Hire aims to protect and enhance the area around Warren House Farm. Also to enhance the quality of the working environment for the workforce, through measures to improve their environmental well being. This strategy sets out plans for future work with associated targets.

As an organisation Brampton skip Hire will be responsible for the implementation of the strategy however the workforce will be of great importance in helping to achieve these aims.

The environment is the most precious asset that we possess. We depend on it for quality of life, including resources, energy, food, recreation and also for the success of our economy. On a global level we are faced with the implications of climate change, acid rain, loss of tropical rainforest, depletion of non-renewable resources, loss of biodiversity and the depletion of the ozone layer.

Locally we may need to deal with pollution of the air, land and rivers, traffic congestion, flooding, loss of wildlife habitats, deforestation, litter, noise and the effects of waste disposal. The majority of these problems are caused by the accumulation of local impacts. It is therefore important that local action is taken to protect the environment in order to maintain and improve the quality of life of both present and future generations.

Brampton Skip Hire is committed to a continual prevention of all forms of pollution and to comply with all relevant legislation. We are also committed to improve our pollution prevention measures with internal reviews on a regular basis, which will also monitor, set, and review all the environmental objectives of the company.

Environmental issues should not be considered in isolation. The environment is not a separate entity but is linked with every thing that we do and every thing that is happening around us. This means that it is important that economic and social objectives are linked with environmental objectives rather than treating them as separate issues. This approach is referred to as *sustainable development*. This aims to ensure a better quality of life for everyone, both now and for future generations. A widely used international definition of the term is *Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*. (Brundtland Report 1997).

The area around Warren House Farm is a high quality natural environment. The green hills, open spaces, woods and associated wildlife make a major contribution to the quality of life for those who live and work in the Brampton area. Providing opportunities for relaxation and enjoyment for local residents.

VISION:

The vision of the Environmental Strategy for Brampton Skip Hire is to protect and enhance the area around Warren House Farm including the working site. To help to protect and enhance the environment so that we make a contribution to maintaining the quality of life for the workforce and the local residents of the area not just for now but also for the future. Also to reduce our impact on the global environment as a whole.

AIMS:

The above vision will be achieved through working towards fulfillment of the following aims.

- 1/ To improve cleanliness of the Warren House Farm area.
- 2/ To minimise air and noise pollution within the site.
- 3/ To protect and conserve the local green hills, open spaces and wildlife
- 4/ To minimise waste and the consumption of natural resources.
- 5/ To improve the working conditions of the workforce.
- 6/ To increase awareness of environmental issues within the workforce.

Background:

Climate change or global warming is one of the most serious environmental problems that the world faces. Recent floods (January 2005), storms, and droughts both here and abroad illustrate how vulnerable we are to extremes of climate and illustrate the high human, environmental and economic costs involved.

Climate change is thought to be caused by a build-up of man-made emissions of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, including carbon dioxide and methane. These gases are primarily released through the Combustion of fossil fuels for energy generation and transport purposes, but also during the landfill/disposal of biodegradable waste.

Although the precise implications of climate change are unknown, it is likely to raise sea levels, affect flora and fauna and cause disruption to the climate, such as heavy rainfall and droughts and associated flooding and also water shortages. Climate change may also affect ocean currents, redirecting the Gulf Stream away from the British Isles, leading to localised cooling of the UK's climate. Changes to our climate is already being seen. For example, the autumn of 2000 was the wettest since records began in 1766 and, globally, nine of the ten warmest years have occurred since 1990.

Climate change is a global problem and therefore is a problem for all of us to help with, no matter whether it is as an individual or as a business. The size of the business is not important we can all help.

The amount of waste generated in the UK is a growing problem. Every year an estimated 20 million tonnes of household waste is created. This is enough to fill dustbins stretching from the Earth to the Moon.

Waste that is not recycled or composted is currently disposed of in man-made holes in the ground called landfill sites. Although landfill disposal will probably always be required to some extent, it has the potential to cause pollution; releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and is becoming increasingly expensive. In addition, landfill capacity is declining rapidly, which means that new sites will have to be found in the near future.

In 2001 the UK recycled.

64% of lead, 46% of copper, 39% of paper, 33% of glass, 45% of construction and demolition waste and only 6.3% of plastic. (Source: Environment Agency)

The most important way of tackling this issue is to reduce the amount of waste that is produced in the first place by using resources more efficiently. It is recognised that waste cannot be eliminated entirely, However we can try to find alternative uses for these materials (reuse), recycle or compost them. The economic as well as the environmental sustainability of these options must also be considered as they are very much driven by market forces. It is therefore essential that we “close the loop” by purchasing products made from recycled materials as this supports recycling schemes by stimulating demand for the materials and thus stabilises prices. Without a market for recycled products there is little point in recycling materials in the first place.

The increasing amount of waste produced in the UK is not a problem with a single, easy solution. Businesses, households, and the community must all play their part. It is therefore essential that we try to minimise the amount of waste produced in the first place; look for opportunities to reuse, recycle and compost our waste and support the market for recyclables by purchasing recycled products wherever possible.

Strategy to achieve the Aims:

Provide accessible recycling facilities for the public and encourage residents and local businesses/ organisations to reuse, recycle their waste.

Provide support and advice for community recycling schemes.

Support and promote the market for recycled products and encourage residents and businesses/ organisations to purchase recycled products.

Regular checks on surrounding countryside for any form of pollution, report where necessary.

Dust filtration systems to be installed inside the recycling plant vehicle disturbance to be kept to a minimum.

The volume of waste produced in the UK in one hour would fill the Albert Hall. Over half of this can be recycled.. (Source: LGB Publications)

Brampton Skip Hire and Warren House Farm:

Brampton Skip Hire operates a fleet of 9 lorries, several pieces of plant machinery and 900 skips varying in size with 26 personnel working as office staff, drivers and recycling plant operatives.

The recycling plant is in a single span building adjoining a dairy farm and is surrounded by farmland. The site needs to be managed to protect the adjoining farm steading, farmland and the impact on the surrounding wildlife and countryside.

Skips are emptied inside the recycling site the contents are then sorted into relevant bays or skips. Re-usable or recyclable items are stored until either given away or sold. Residual waste is then taken to land fill. Brampton Skip Hire are always looking into ways to recycle more of the residual waste that at present goes to land fill.