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**Samurai Tree Care**

**Health and Safety Policy**

Conducted by Ben Bruce (T/A) Samurai Tree Care (Sole Trader).

Introduction.

Samurai Tree Care have over 5 years industry experience subcontracting for larger companies. We gained a wealth of knowledge from working all over the UK in specialist conservation/preservation tree work. We were able to get an insight into working with government organisations, domestic tree work, commercial tree work and minor forestry, taking all we have learned in order to establish Samurai Tree Care in 2012. With 3 years of college education in Horticulture & Arboriculture, combined with our industry experience, we have established our company as being Safe, Professional, Reliable and Environmentally Aware.

**Samurai Tree Care** complies with all recommendations under the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974. We do our best to ensure the Health, Safety and Welfare of both employees and any other person who may come into contact with our sites.

Provisions for Health and Safety include:

* Ensuring all plant and equipment is properly maintained and does not pose a hazard to health
* Ensuring that all employees have up-to-date certificates and are competent
* Ensuring that all employees wear correct PPE corresponding to the machinery in use
* Ensuring procedures are followed for the safe handling, transport and storage of all materials
* Ensuring that all staff are properly instructed, trained and, when necessary, supervised in Health and Safety procedures
* Ensuring the places of work do not pose Health and Safety risk to employees
* Ensuring that exits and entrances to work pose no risk to Health and Safety
* Ensuring the welfare of staff in the work place
* Ensuring that any Plant/Machine Operators have up-to-date qualifications and are competent in the machinery they operate

Ben Bruce, Proprietor of Samurai Tree Care, is responsible for Health & Safety, but needs active cooperation from sub-contractors to make these policies work. Sub-Contractors have a duty to follow Health and Safety Policy at all times, and need to ensure that competency is key and everything is done to prevent injury to themselves and others, whilst maintaining a professional image of Samurai Tree Care.

Awareness Training for Health Problems:

We aim for any sub-contractors to have the relevant awareness of the following training in order to comply with our policies.

Awareness Training required:

* The use of materials hazardous to health - COSHH - Asthma and Occupational Dermatitis
* The effects of exposure to R40/21/22 & R42 products such as Petrol, Diesel, Oil, Thinners, Paint, Fungicid, Pesticides and Glysophate
* Hearing Loss resulting from constant exposure to noise levels above 85 dBA
* Hand/Arm/Whole Body Vibration Syndrome caused by hand held vibrating tools, i.e. Hedge Cutters, Chainsaws and Stump Grinders, etc.

**Samurai Tree Care**ensures that adequate training is in place for all sub-contractors, in order to comply with Environmental and Health & Safety legislation.

Dependant on their role within the business, sub-contractors are required to have the following skills, training or qualifications:

* CSCS CARDS CPCS CARDS (relevant to construction site work only)
* KNOWLEDGE OF HEALTH & SAFTEY POLICY (Samurai Tree Care)
* NPTC/LANTRA qualifications & certificates or other equivalent.
* RISK ASSESSMENT
* FIRST AID TRAINING
* HAND ARM VIBRATION
* MANUAL HANDLING PRODURES
* COSHH
* CONSTRUCTION SITE SAFETY AWARNESS
* CHERRY PICKER SAFETY PROCEDURES
* BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF WORK SITE
* AWARENESS OF THE PUBLIC
* LOCATIONS SET TO MEET EMERGENCY SERVICES
* FULL COMMUNICATION
* EMERGENCY “STOP WORK” PROCEDURE

All Sub-Contractors undergo full supervision while onsite in order to identify further training needs and to ensure that their day to day work practices are not causing Health & Safety risks to themselves, others, or the public.

**ISO STANDARDS**

All works are carried out in accordance with the following Management Systems and Standards:
**ISO9001: Quality, ISO14001: Environmental, ISO18001: Health & Safety**

**BRITISH STANDARD**

Works are undertaken to the following British Standards:

* **British Standard 3998:1989 ‘British Standard Recommendations for Tree Work’**

**INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICE**

All work is conducted using the following AFAG (Arboriculture & Forestry Advisory Group) guides as the industry best practice.

[AFAG 203 - Clearing saw](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag203-Clearing-Saw.pdf)/Brush cutters
[AFAG 301 - Using petrol driven chainsaws](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag301-Chainsaws.pdf)
[AFAG 302 - Basic chainsaw felling and manual takedown](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag302-Chainsaw-Felling.pdf)
[AFAG 303 - Chainsaw snedding](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag303-Chainsaw-Snedding.pdf)
[AFAG 304 - Crosscutting and manual stacking](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag304-Chainsaw-Crosscutting.pdf)
[AFAG 306 - Chainsaw clearance of windblow](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag306-Chainsaw-Clearance.pdf)
[AFAG 307 - Chainsaw felling of large trees](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag307-Large-Tree-Felling.pdf)
[AFAG 308 - Top handled chainsaws](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag308-Top-Handled-Chainsaws.pdf)
[AFAG 310 - Use of winches in directional felling and takedown](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag310Winches-Directional-Takedown.pdf)
[AFAG 401 - Tree climbing operations](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag401-Tree-Climbing-Operations.pdf)
[AFAG 402 - Aerial tree rescue](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag402-Aerial-Tree-Rescue.pdf)
[AFAG 604 - Woodchippers](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag604-Wood-Chippers.pdf)
[AFAG 606 - Mobile stump grinders](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag606-Mobile-Stump-Grinders.pdf)
[AFAG 702 - All-terrain vehicles](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag702-All-Terrain-Vehicles.pdf)
[AFAG 802 - Emergency planning](http://www.london-tree-surgeons.co.uk/Regulations/afag802-Emergency-Planning.pdf)