

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

1. Policy Statement

Red Pencil Pest Control is committed to conducting its pest management operations in an environmentally responsible manner.

We will prevent pollution, minimise waste, and protect wildlife and non-target species while delivering effective pest control solutions.

This commitment is integral to our business and forms part of our continual improvement programme.

We comply with all relevant UK and local environmental legislation, including:

- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011
- Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016
- Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005 (as amended)
- Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 and GB BPR authorisations
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
- CRRU UK Rodenticide Stewardship Regime

2. Objectives

Red Pencil Pest Control aims to:

- Prevent contamination of soil, air, and water from pest-control materials.
- Minimise the use of chemical treatments through Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- Use the safest effective products and application methods.
- Manage waste and packaging in compliance with legal and duty-of-care requirements.
- Reduce energy use, fuel consumption, and emissions from vehicles and equipment.
- Train all staff in environmental awareness and sustainable working practices.
- Work with suppliers and clients to promote environmentally sound pest control.

3. Organisation and Responsibilities

Director (Andy Wood)

- Overall responsibility for environmental management, compliance, and resources.
- Ensures environmental considerations are built into company planning and decision-making.
- Reviews policy annually and following any significant change.

Technicians and Operatives

- Implement procedures to prevent environmental harm during all pest-control activities.

- Handle, apply, and dispose of pesticides strictly according to label, COSHH, and CRRU requirements.
- Report spills, leaks, or wildlife incidents immediately to the Director.
- Maintain accurate treatment and waste records.

Subcontractors

- Must comply fully with this policy and RPPC procedures.
- Must provide evidence of competence and waste-carrier licences where applicable.

4. Key Environmental Controls

4.1 Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

- Prioritise inspection, proofing, hygiene, and habitat reduction before chemical control.
- Use targeted application methods and lowest effective dosages.
- Review treatments regularly and withdraw bait or insecticide when no longer needed.

4.2 Pesticide and Rodenticide Use

- Use only approved UK products with current authorisation under GB BPR or COPR.
- Follow BPCA Codes of Best Practice and CRRU guidance to prevent secondary poisoning.
- Keep pesticide inventory, SDS, and COSHH assessments up to date.
- Store products in secure, bunded, ventilated chemical stores or vehicle compartments.
- Maintain spill-response materials and emergency procedures.

4.3 Waste Management

- Apply the waste hierarchy: **Reduce → Reuse → Recycle → Recover → Dispose**.
- Separate and label hazardous waste (EWC 20 01 19*, 15 01 10*, 16 05 04*).
- Maintain waste-transfer and consignment notes.
- Use only registered waste carriers and approved disposal facilities.
- Ensure triple-rinsing of empty containers and correct segregation.

4.4 Wildlife and Non-Target Protection

- Avoid exposure to protected species (birds, bats, pollinators).
- Use physical exclusion or proofing before lethal control.
- Comply with GL41 and GL42 (bird control general licences).
- Record any wildlife casualties or suspected non-target poisoning and report as required.

4.5 Vehicle and Fuel Efficiency

- Route plan to minimise travel and fuel use.
- Maintain vehicles to manufacturer standards and record mpg.
- Avoid unnecessary idling; consider low-emission zones and eco-driving practices.

4.6 Spill Prevention and Response

- Spill kits carried in all vehicles and stores.
- Contain spills, absorb, collect, and dispose of as hazardous waste.
- Report significant spills or pollution events immediately to the Environment Agency (0800 80 70 60).

5. Communication, Training & Awareness

- Environmental policy displayed in the workplace and vehicles.
- All staff receive environmental awareness training during induction and refreshers.
- Clients provided with guidance on safe pesticide use and environmental considerations.

6. Monitoring & Review

- Environmental performance reviewed annually using measurable KPIs (fuel use, waste produced, pesticide volumes).
- Audits carried out at least once a year to confirm compliance and identify improvement actions.
- Policy reviewed each October or sooner following significant change, incident, or legislative update.

7. Endorsement

Signed: 
Name: Andy Wood Position: Director
Date: 16 October 2025
Next Review: 16 October 2026