

# Pest Control Policy

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## **Pest Control Policy**

### **Introduction:**

Berkswell Recycling Limited recognises that we have an obligation to take all necessary measures to prevent the risk of pest infestation at our recycling facility.

Due to the nature of our business and also the rural location of our facility, pests will always be present with numbers increasing or decreasing due to seasonal fluctuations.

The purpose of this policy is to identify the pests which have the potential to cause problems and nuisance to both site operatives and also our closest sensitive receptors.

It will also aim to identify at which times of year pest infestations are likely to occur and what control measures and treatments should be undertaken to control or rid the site of the pests.

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

It is the responsibility of all members of Berkswell Recycling Limited's staff to limit the potential of pest infestation by general good housekeeping.

All areas around the site and all site machinery should be kept clean and tidy to avoid pests nesting and therefore breeding.

Pools of water should be swept clear and the reason for the build up of the water should be addressed.

Should it be apparent that there is a pest infestation, or it is anticipated that a particular pest may become a problem soon, the relevant members of staff will be informed, and the relevant pest treatment plan will be implemented.

### **Pest Control Contracts:**

We employ the services of 2 external companies with regard to our pest control procedures:

#### For the control of rodents:



## Forward Pest Control

Forward Pest Control visit our sites on an annual basis to check the control measures we have in place.

### For the control of flies:

ADAS / RSK or other

External consultant for our monitoring and measurement of the volumes of flies around our site, should the need arise.

### **Types of Pests:**

Due to the location of our facility (rural) and the nature of our business (processing green waste materials) it is understandable that there will be pests present due to the composting of organic waste.

Detailed below are the types of pests you would typically expect to encounter and whether they pose a low, medium, or high risk of infestation, and at which time of year we would typically expect to see their numbers at their highest.

### Ants:

Ants can cause a nuisance as they travel widely in search of food, following well defined trails and can be an unpleasant site when clustered around a food source.

Ants in our opinion do not pose a significant risk of infestation.

### Potential peak: Mid Summer months

### Infestation Risk Level: Low

### Bats:

Bats are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc) Regulations 1994. The penalties for contravention are severe.

If bats are discovered in any of the site buildings or on any of the land they will not be killed, touched, or disturbed. English Nature will be contracted for advice if bats are found.

Bats have not been found on our site.

### Potential peak: N/A

Infestation Risk Level: Low

**Bees / Wasps:**

Bee and wasp stings obviously cause pain and distress. Some individuals are particularly sensitive to a sting and may require medical treatment.

Nests are usually found within wall cavities, air bricks and roof vents. From time to time, they may be found within a compost maturation pile, but this is rare due to the relatively high turnaround and processing of the pile during their peak months of activity.

**Potential Peak: Mid Summer months through to early Autumn**

Infestation Risk Level: Low

**Birds:**

The nuisance of birds can be controlled in the first instance by preventative measures such as blocking of nesting holes and the application of devices to discourage perching.

Birds do not cause a nuisance on our site due to the location and the abundance of trees surrounding the site for nesting.

**Potential Peak: N/A**

Infestation Risk Level: Low

**Cockroaches:**

Cockroaches are more commonly found in and around premises associated with the production of food. They are nocturnal creatures and spend the day in cracks and crevices.

We do not believe that cockroaches have the potential to cause an infestation at our site.

**Potential Peak: N/A**

Infestation Risk Level: Low

**Flies:**

Flies have rapid and prolific breeding habits and high mobility and pose probably the highest risk of infestation at our site. They will frequent and feed



indiscriminately on any liquefiable solid food or composting material and are potential vectors of disease.

In order to break the life cycle of flies control measure should be directed against larval and adult flies.

A treatment regime has been put into place which includes coating the interior of the buildings with insecticides and if it is thought that the population is increasing direct application to the flies with a natural organic insecticide.

**Potential Peak: March to September (subject to weather conditions)**

**Infestation Risk Level: High**

**Foxes:**

Due to the location of our facility (rural) there are a number of foxes' present roaming around the site foraging for food.

Foxes may occasionally spread disease such as toxocara and leptospirosis, but the risk is believed to be small.

Foxes do not pose a significant risk of infestation. They will also help keep the rodent population in control as well. Killing the foxes would not eradicate them as other foxes will move into the vacant territory.

**Potential Peak: N/A**

**Infestation Risk Level: Low**

**Rodents:**

Rodents, particularly rats pose a risk of infestation on our site due to the size of the site surrounded by grass banks, woods and fields it is impossible to estimate the size of the population present on site as the rats move to and from the site from these locations.

Control measures such as regular baiting and monitoring of known activity areas are undertaken, as well as monitoring other areas where rodent activity has been noted by way of droppings, nests, fur etc.

**Potential Peak: N/A – Annual activity**

**Infestation Risk Level: Medium**

**Squirrels:**

Squirrels can cause damage to buildings in a number of ways, as once inside they can chew through woodwork, ceilings and insulation on electrical wiring.

Squirrels do not pose a significant risk of infestation on our site. There is no evidence to suggest that they have entered any of the buildings and therefore are deemed a low risk.

Potential Peak: N/A

Infestation Risk Level: Low

### **Treatments, Monitoring and Recording of Pests:**

Due to the limited number of pests on our site the treatment, monitoring and recording methods we will employ are as follows:

Ants: No treatment regime required as the risk of infestation is low. Regular site checks do take place, and any noted ant activity will be recorded and treated where they pose a potential to be a nuisance.

Bats: No bats have been noted on our site, no treatment is required. In the event of any bats being noted the appropriate agency will be notified and all work ongoing in the vicinity will be stopped.

Bees / Wasps: No treatment regime required as the risk of infestation is low. If a nest is noted on site during regular site checks or by a member of staff and it is deemed the nest requires removal a suitably trained exterminator will be employed.

Birds: No treatment regime required as the risk of infestation is low. Access to site buildings and outbuildings by birds is not uncommon but they rarely nest within these buildings due to the abundance of trees around our site.

Cockroaches: No treatment regime required as the risk of infestation is low. No cockroaches have been noted on our site but where activity is noted during general site checks an appropriate extermination measures will be taken.

Flies: Monthly spraying of all buildings and outbuildings using Oxyfly which forms a harmful coating / barrier to the flies. This barrier stops the flies landing on the treated areas of the building and will cause death to the fly shortly after contact.

Regular spraying of flies is undertaken using an organic insecticide which is applied via nap-sack sprayers. Any areas of the site which are perceived to be a problem during regular site checks are treated and this information is recorded in the site diary and on monitoring sheets. General housekeeping and cleanliness are also employed to reduce the risk of infestation, pools of water are swept away, drains are maintained in a good working order and all feedstocks are processed in a timely manner to avoid attracting all types of pests.

**Foxes:** No treatment regime in place for the treatment of foxes. They do not pose a threat of infestation and treatment would be futile as an empty territory will be taken over by another fox.

**Rodents:** Regular baiting of pre-determined and known rodent locations and runs is undertaken. Neosorexa rodent bait is bagged up in small plastic bags which are small enough for the rodent to take back to the nest to eliminate the nest (and young rodents) rather than the individual adult rodent. Monitoring of the baiting locations is recorded on a regular basis (at least twice weekly) and any additional activity is noted and baited accordingly. Annual site inspections from Forward Pest Control are undertaken and any advice or guidance given by them are noted and put into place.