

SKAC239 (SQA Unit Code - FA44 04)

Contribute to environmental conservation in active leisure and recreation



Overview

This unit is about helping your organisation to look after the environment in a responsible manner. The unit covers pollution prevention, the reduction, re-use and recycling of waste, the conservation of energy and water resources and the management of outdoor areas so that wildlife can thrive. The unit also covers giving information and advice to customers and colleagues on issues to do with conservation and the natural environment.

The unit is divided into two parts. The first part describes the three things you have to do. These are:

1. Contribute to managing resources in a sustainable way
2. Contribute to the good ecological management of outdoor areas
3. Provide information and advice on environmental issues

The second part covers the knowledge and understanding you must have.

This unit is for operational staff working in active leisure and recreation who have responsibilities for environmental conservation as part of their role

SKAC239 (SQA Unit Code - FA44 04)

Contribute to environmental conservation in active leisure and recreation

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Contribute to managing resources in a sustainable way

- P1 identify and agree your responsibilities for managing resources
- P2 carry out your responsibilities for managing resources as agreed
- P3 maintain equipment according to manufacturers' instructions
- P4 get advice and information on managing resources in a sustainable way when you need it
- P5 work within your budget and other organisational constraints
- P6 make suggestions on how to improve the management of resources within your organisation

You must be able to:

Contribute to the good ecological management of outside areas

- P7 identify and agree your responsibilities for managing outdoor areas in ways that benefit wildlife
- P8 carry out your responsibilities for managing outside areas in ways that benefit wildlife
- P9 get advice and information on managing outside areas in ways that benefit wildlife when you need it
- P10 make suggestions on how to manage outside areas in ways that benefit wildlife

You must be able to:

Provide information and advice on environmental issues

- P11 identify and agree your responsibilities for providing information and advice on environmental conservation
- P12 provide information and advice to people on the site when necessary
- P13 make sure the information and advice you provide is clear and easily understood
- P14 make sure environmental activities are enjoyable for visitors
- P15 explain the reasons for the information and advice you provide
- P16 deal with any conflict sensitively and in line with your organisation's procedures
- P17 make suggestions to improve the information and advice your organisation provides

SKAC239 (SQA Unit Code - FA44 04)

Contribute to environmental conservation in active leisure and recreation

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 what is meant by:
 - K1.1 environmental conservation
 - K1.2 sustainability
 - K1.3 bio-diversity
- K2 why environmental conservation is important to the organisation you work for
- K3 the basic requirements of legislation that is relevant to environmental conservation
- K4 your organisation's environmental management plan and your responsibilities relating to environmental conservation
- K5 available budgets and other organisational constraints
- K6 agencies and other organisations that can provide information and advice on environmental conservation
- K7 how to make suggestions to improve environmental conservation in your organisation and why it is important to try to continuously improve
- K8 why it is important to manage resources responsibly
- K9 the main methods an organisation can use to reduce waste in:
 - K9.1 energy
 - K9.2 water
 - K9.3 materials
- K10 the main methods an organisation can use to re-use resources, the types of resources that can be re-used and the procedures you should follow
- K11 the main methods an organisation can use to recycle resources (including composting), the types of resources that can be recycled and the procedures you should follow
- K12 the types of resources – for example, building materials and packaging – that have an impact on the environment and how this impact can be minimised
- K13 why it is important to maintain equipment according to the manufacturers' instructions and the impact poorly maintained equipment can have on the environment
- K14 energy conservation and the use of 'green transport'
- K15 why it is important to use locally produced resources wherever possible
- K16 why it is important to sustain and develop:
 - K16.1 boundaries, borders and buffer zones
 - K16.2 formal gardens
 - K16.3 grassland, moor, heath and other open areas
 - K16.4 trees and woodland areas conservation in active leisure and recreation

SKAC239 (SQA Unit Code - FA44 04)

Contribute to environmental conservation in active leisure and recreation

- K16.5 rivers, streams, ponds and wetland areas and the main methods an organisation can use to do this for each of the above
- K17 creation of 'wild areas', for example wildflower meadows
- K18 installing features such as nesting boxes and log piles to attract and benefit wildlife
- K19 why it is important to use traditional materials and methods when constructing boundaries, paths and roads and the materials and methods you should use
- K20 the types of building and other materials you should avoid using and why
- K21 the main types of native species of plants on your site and the correct times and methods you should use to plant and maintain these, from the point of view of the health of the plant and the impact on local wildlife
- K22 how to deal with cuttings, for example grass cuttings, logs and prunings, in a way most appropriate to the site and why this is important
- K23 the main types of wildlife local to your site, in particular those that are vulnerable and in need of encouragement and protection, and how to encourage and protect these
- K24 the types of plants and wildlife that you should avoid introducing and why
- K25 why it may be necessary to manage/ encourage certain types of local wildlife and acceptable methods for doing this
- K26 the difference between wanted and unwanted plants and how to manage unwanted plants
- K27 how to select and use chemicals (herbicides and pesticides) in a way that is not detrimental to the natural environment and the requirement for appropriate chemical application certificates
- K28 why it is important to provide information and advice on the local environment and methods of sustaining it to visitors and colleagues
- K29 the main methods you have of providing information and advice
- K30 why it is important to inform visitors about procedures for managing resources responsibly and the reasons for this
- K31 how to site and maintain interpretation boards and leaflets about the natural environment
- K32 how to develop and involve visitors in activities that promote their understanding of environmental conservation
- K33 the types of conflict that may arise between visitors and the organisation – for example, avoiding unnecessary waste, noise and light pollution and causing disruption to the natural environment – and how to deal with these
- K34 types of 'environmentally friendly' transport – for example, walking, cycling and use of public transport – that you should encourage visitors to use and how to encourage them
- K35 why it is important to encourage visitors to buy local food and produce and contribute to the local economy, and the best ways of doing this

SKAC239 (SQA Unit Code - FA44 04)

Contribute to environmental conservation in active leisure and recreation

Additional Information

Scope/range related to performance criteria

Responsibilities for

1. pollution prevention
2. waste reduction
3. waste re-use
4. waste recycling (including composting)
5. energy conservation (including the promotion of 'green' transport)
6. water conservation and re-use
7. specifying, purchasing and using raw materials, products and equipment that have as little environmental impact as possible
8. using traditional methods and materials that are appropriate to your locality

Resources

1. energy: all fuels and electricity
2. water
3. all other materials relevant to your job

Advice and information

1. from your work colleagues
2. from external organisations

Responsibilities for:

1. conserving and protecting existing wildlife and habitats
2. growing and planting trees and other plants (normally native species) that attract and benefit insects and other animals
3. managing outdoor areas in a naturalistic way that encourages wildlife to thrive
4. creating new habitats and 'wild areas'
5. installing features that attract and benefit wildlife
6. using appropriate building materials and equipment
7. dealing with cuttings and other horticultural waste properly

Natural environment

1. boundaries, borders and buffer zones
2. formal gardens
3. grassland, moor, heath and other open areas
4. trees and woodland areas
5. rivers, streams, ponds and wetland areas

Information and advice in the form of:

SKAC239 (SQA Unit Code - FA44 04)

Contribute to environmental conservation in active leisure and recreation

1. information/interpretation boards
2. leaflets
3. spoken
4. involving visitors in environmental activities

Information and advice covering:

1. managing resources in a sustainable way
2. the natural environment
3. sustaining and developing the natural environment
4. noise and light pollution
5. 'green' transport issues
6. the importance of buying local produce (particularly local, seasonal food) and supporting the local economy

SKAC239 (SQA Unit Code - FA44 04)

Contribute to environmental conservation in active leisure and recreation

Developed by SkillsActive

Version number 1

Date approved June 2009

Indicative review date June 2014

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation SkillsActive

Original URN SA44NC239

Relevant occupations Associate Professionals and Technical Occupations; Leisure, travel and tourism; Sport, leisure and recreation; Sports and Fitness Occupations

Suite Activity Leadership

Key words contribute, environmental, conservation, active, leisure, recreation