LANTw12 - SQA Unit Code H2SE 04
Ameliorate soil for tree health

Overview

This standard is about ameliorating soil under trees to maintain tree health. This may involve single trees or groups of trees and may take place in urban or rural conditions. Soil amelioration is particularly important on sites that suffer from compaction, erosion and for amenity value trees

Amelioration is maintaining and improving the quality of the soil

This standard is for those involved in improving and maintaining tree health

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

P1 assess the risks associated with the site and proposed works
P2 assess soil conditions to determine and recommend suitable amelioration techniques
P3 advise appropriate person as to the likely outcome of amelioration techniques
P4 select, prepare and use tools and equipment that are appropriate to the work, safely and effectively
P5 maintain the security of machinery and equipment on site
P6 carry out agreed site amelioration
P7 recommend suitable aftercare to prevent the soil condition re-occurring in the future
P8 maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times in accordance with current legislation.

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 how to identify hazards and assess risks
K2 how to interpret risk assessments
K3 how to identify the signs and symptoms in the tree and/or the soil that would suggest the need for soil amelioration
K4 **methods** of soil amelioration and when each would be appropriate
K5 the physiological problems of the tree and what the proposed treatment will achieve
K6 the importance of providing accurate advice
K7 the implications of seasonal and ground conditions for your work
K8 the types of tools and equipment required and how to maintain and use these safely and effectively
K9 why it is important to maintain safety and security of equipment and vehicles when on site
K10 your responsibilities under current environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

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Scope related to knowledge and understanding

Soil amelioration **methods**:

1 mulching
2 feeding
3 top dressing
4 pneumatic decompaction
5 mycorrhizal injection

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