


Toolbox No.1	Issue No. 1	Date: May 2023
	<b>TOOL BOX TALK</b>	
	<b><u>Environmental Issues</u></b>	

**Scope:**

The business dictionary describes environmental sustainability as: the maintenance of the factors and practices that contribute to the quality of environment on a long-term basis.

Almost everything we do will impact the environment, some of those activities can cause irreversible damage to the environment such as environmental pollution, extinction of species, depletion of resources and destruction of habitat.

**Things to Consider:**

Some of the most common environmental impacts are:

energy usage

air pollution, soil pollution and water pollution (groundwater / rivers / ocean)

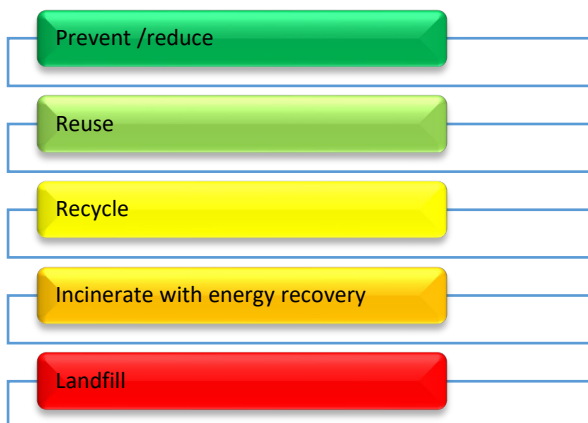
production of waste

noise pollution



In a nutshell, an Environmental Impact is defined as any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, resulting from a facilities activities, products, or services.

**Takeaway Point:**



Good environmental management focuses on pollution prevention and control which can be well-defined by looking at the waste hierarchy. This ethos can be applied to almost all environmental aspects.

Switch off equipment when not in use

Substitute harmful chemicals for their less harmful substitutes

Ensure there is no clear route for chemicals to contaminate the soil or water systems

Follow the waste hierarchy

Many organisations choose to demonstrate they are meeting their environmental obligations with the implementation of an Environmental Management System such as ISO 14001:2015.

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**Applicable Legislation:**

Whilst there is specific legislation covering all the environmental aspects and impacts from the disposal of batteries to chemical management etc, the following legislation is key to understanding your legal obligations:

[Environment Act 2021 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

[The Environmental Permitting \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2016 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

[Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013 SI 2013/3113](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)


[Waste \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2011 SI 2011/988](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

[Climate Change Act 2008](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)


**Related Documents:**

Introduction to ISO 14001

[ISO 14001 - Introduction to ISO 14001:2015](https://www.iso.org)

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<b>TOOLBOX ATTENDANCE SHEET</b>		
Company:	Talk Delivered By	
Date:		
<b><u>Attended By</u></b>	<b><u>Signature</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>

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