

**No 7**

**WORKING NEAR TREES**

**WHAT?**

Trees and hedgerows are an important part of the environment and the countryside.

They provide a vitally important habitat for wildlife and many trees and hedgerows are protected by law.



**WHY?**

- ❑ **Avoid prosecution:** It is illegal to cut down trees protected by law under a Tree Preservation Order or to grub up certain countryside hedges.
- ❑ **Avoid environmental harm and prosecution:** During certain times of the year trees and hedgerows may contain nesting birds. Nesting birds are protected by law against disturbance under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.
- ❑ **Ensure safety is maintained:** Damaged trees may become unstable and potential hazards.

**DO**

- ✓ Check with your manager before felling any trees or removing any hedgerows
- ✓ Clear only vegetation as instructed by your manager
- ✓ Check for nesting birds and if any are found contact your manager immediately
- ✓ Ask your manager what protection is required to trees and hedgerows
- ✓ Check with your manager before excavating near to trees and hedgerows.

**DON'T**

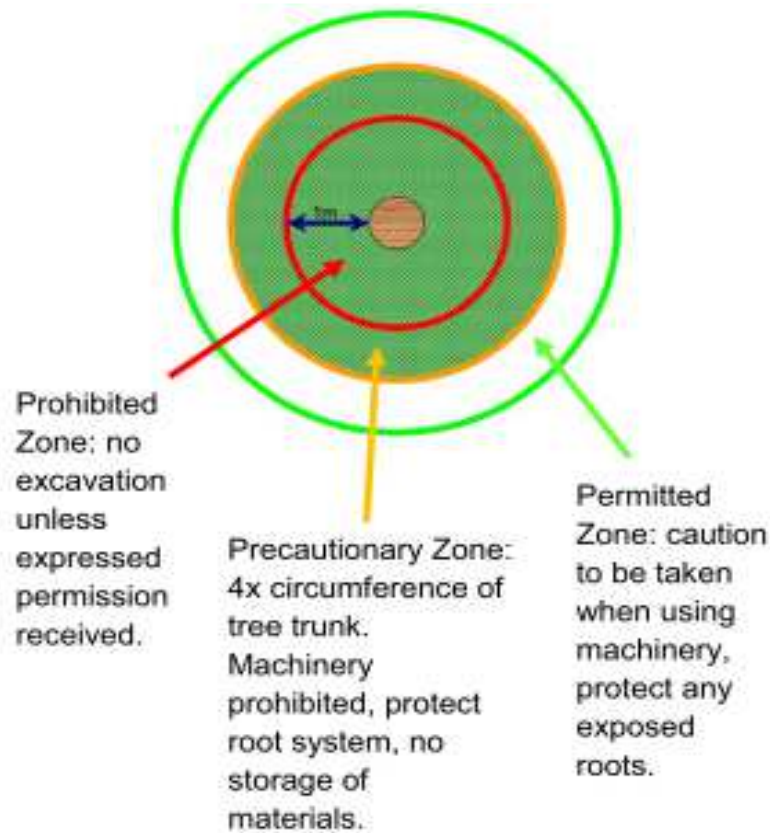
- ✗ DON'T undertake tree felling or hedgerow clearance during the bird nesting season
- ✗ DON'T undertake any works to, or near to, trees without authorisation from your manager
- ✗ DON'T track vehicles or plant over tree protection areas
- ✗ DON'T store materials, especially fuels and oils under or near trees.



image: www.freeimages.co.uk

*If you require any further information please contact your Environmental Adviser – 07812042830*

## GUIDANCE WHEN WORKING NEAR TREES



### PROTECTION ZONES

#### Key to Diagram



Trunk of Tree



Spread of canopy or branches



**PROHIBITED ZONE – 1m from trunk.** Excavations of any kind must not be undertaken within this zone unless full consultation with Local Authority Tree Officer is undertaken. Materials, plant and spoil must not be stored within this zone.



**PRECAUTIONARY ZONE – 4 x tree circumference.** Where excavations must be undertaken within this zone the use of mechanical excavation plant should be prohibited. Precautions should be undertaken to protect any exposed roots. Materials, plant and spoil should not be stored within this zone. Consult with Local Authority Tree Officer if in any doubt.



**PERMITTED ZONE – outside of precautionary zone.** Excavation works may be undertaken within this zone however caution must be applied and the use of mechanical plant limited. Any exposed roots should be protected.