

# Toolbox Talk

## Consider the environment



The construction industry can have a major affect on the environment in a number of ways. From altering land use and introducing pollutants into watercourses to affecting the climate on a global scale. There has now been a major push to develop sustainably and to ensure environmental risks and damaging processes are negated.



### What you need to consider and how you deal with them:

- *Archaeology, heritage and landscape*; the project plan will have taken this into account. You should follow instructions to ensure the work you do does not compromise the project plan.
- *Protected species*; it is illegal to affect any protected species, such as bats and nesting birds. You will be advised of any protected species on your site. If you encounter any protected species notify your camp Leader.
- *Invasive species*; these pose a threat to the native environment. You will have been advised if any are likely to be present on your site. It is important that you follow any instruction given in your site induction.
- *Housekeeping*; good housekeeping safeguards the local environment. Make sure you use the appropriate refuse and recycling facilities and the correct containers for hazardous materials.
- *Material storage*; store materials in an orderly manner so they don't become damaged during storage or handling.
- *Nuisance*; nuisance can be from noise, dust, bonfire smoke, pump discharge water and lighting. Consider your neighbors when you are likely to cause a nuisance.
- *Refueling plant, tools and equipment*; make sure refueling is carried out in a designated area and use funnels to avoid spills. Protect the ground with a plant nappy. Have a spill kit available in case!
- *Waste management*; waste should be stored to avoid contamination. Separate different types of waste wherever possible.
- *Water contamination*; avoid carrying out activities where hazardous materials have the potential to pollute water courses. Be particularly careful when dealing with wash water from concrete or mortar mixing.