

Associate Member Supporter: Membership Code.

The Amenity Forum brings together professional organisations with an involvement and interest in weed and pest control in the amenity horticulture sector.

Thank you for your interest in joining us – we're looking forward to welcoming you to the Forum.

Please take the time to read the details of this **Membership Code**. Here we set out how we expect our Members to fully support the Amenity Forum. On the Membership Sign-up Form you will be asked to confirm that you have read and understood the terms set out within this code.

The Amenity Forum's Key Objectives.

It's very important that all of our Members fully support by their actions and deeds, the Forum's primary objective of **promoting and encouraging an integrated approach to the management of pests, weeds and diseases**. In addition, we expect Members to support all of our key objectives:

- To promote and encourage proper and responsible use of pesticides and integrated methods for the control of pests, weeds and diseases.
- To lead, coordinate and encourage achievement of "Best Practice" objectives in amenity pesticide use.
- To coordinate and encourage the establishment of sustainable qualifications, training and CPD activity, specifically for the amenity sector.
- To organise activities within the Amenity Forum membership and linked organisations, such that Amenity Forum objectives are developed in a coordinated way.
- Members should ensure adequate training, certification of, and working practices by, their staff and those of any contractors they use.

In supporting our key objectives, Members will

- Act in a responsible manner in all activities related to weed, pest and disease control paying due regard to the interests of users, the community, and the environment, and not do anything which will bring the sector into disrepute.
- Comply as a minimum, in all respects with the UK laws, regulations and Codes of Practice governing all actions related to weed pest and disease control.
- Ensure adequate training, certification of, and working practices by, their staff and those of any outside contractors or staff they use.

Active engagement with the amenity sector.

Members are expected to...

- have an active interest in the amenity sector
- be able to demonstrate that they can support our objectives
- have a reputation for honest business in the sector.

Recruitment of others.

Expanding its size and influence is a major objective of the Forum and Members are asked to assist in the recruitment of others.

Technologies.

The Forum is keen to encourage developing technologies but will not actively promote individual products.

Press.

When making presentations or speaking to bodies such as the press, members must ensure that, if they make statements on behalf of the Forum, they have spoken to the Chairman or Secretary prior to doing this. In the Amenity Forum, the Chairman is the only official spokesperson.

Subscription costs.

Your first year as Associate Member Supporter will run from 1st January 2019 to 31st December 2019 inclusive, at no cost. If you wish to become a full member of the Amenity Forum from 1st January 2020, membership fees will apply, currently £600. This will give you even more support and fully demonstrate your commitment to best practice.

Marketing materials, communications and events.

Associate Member Supporters are permitted to use the Forum's logo on their website, letterheads, business cards and emails. You will receive regular email updates from the Forum including a monthly Associate Member Supporter email newsletter. Regular meetings and access to other Members will provide you with the opportunity for effective networking. Details of the Forum's activities, guidance notes and other information can be found on our website www.amenityforum.co.uk

Breach of code

In the unlikely situation where a member is suspected of a breach of this code, the Chairman will invite comments from the Member and, if for whatever reason, matters cannot thus be resolved, the issue will be referred to the Governance Committee. This Committee will offer the Member the opportunity to present his case. After which, if the Committee is satisfied that a breach of the Code of Practice has occurred, it may decide what action, if any, should be taken in respect of such breach and shall inform the Member accordingly.

Action to be taken may include one or more of the following:

- requiring that the situation be remedied
- requiring assurances that no similar breaches will occur in future;
- recommending to a Meeting of the full Forum that the member concerned should leave the Forum.

All members of the Amenity Forum are deemed by virtue of their membership to be committed to follow this code