



HTA PRODUCTS AND SERVICES TO HELP YOU ON YOUR SUSTAINABILITY JOURNEY

Smarter horticulture.
For a better future.

Including



Alpha Packaging

Sustainable packaging solutions



Get in touch with the HTA's preferred packaging partner to discuss how you can cut down your packaging waste and what other alternatives are available. There are a few alternatives below but there are plenty more, free samples available on request.

Paper Bags

The carrier bag charge does not apply to paper bags in England at present (Wales, Scotland and Ireland have their own regulations so check your local government website). We supply branded paper bags especially for garden centres with a block bottom ideal for bedding trays and plants.



Compostable Bags

Compostable bags are another alternative to plastic. The minimum order for these is quite high at present but as more retailers get on board with this style of bag, prices

will hopefully reduce. For a quote please email kerry@alphapackaging.co.uk

Vegware

Catering containers and cutlery made from plants. They are designed for single use food items that can be commercially composted once they have been used.

Woven Hessian Shopping Bag

Shoppers are becoming increasingly used to taking reusable shopping bags with them wherever they go, so why not make the most of this and use it as an opportunity to promote your brand as they shop. Personalised jute bags are available with your own logo. Designs are printed both sides of bags, and there are a range of sizes available. There are many other sustainable products available from Alpha Packaging, including:



- paper car boot liners
- oxo-biodegradable polythene car boot liners
- kraft paper bags
- polythene degradable vest bags
- cardboard boxes... and much more.

All customisable to your business.

The HTA voucher code offers 10% across our whole online store including all general packaging, retail packaging, protective packaging and mailing bags.

T: 01235 511500

E: info@alphapackaging.co.uk

To use the HTA member discount online, enter voucher code ALPHA_HTA

HTA Utilities

Energycentric

Business Utilities

Energycentric have been working to save money for HTA member organisations for many years and are proud to be the company behind HTA Utilities.

Energycentric look after their clients' utility needs for the entire contract, liaising with suppliers on your behalf. Energycentric manage your procurement to get the best deal, validate bills and help you to better understand the marketplace.

Electricity

Energycentric can tender your requirements to all major utility suppliers, deal with all the complexities, and provide a transparent and clear report outlining exactly what prices each supplier is offering with no hidden extras.

Gas

As independent utility consultants, Energycentric can help you to secure the best price that's available for your gas. They will tender your requirements to all major utility suppliers, take care of the transfers and administration and monitor your account throughout the entire contract.

Water

In April 2017, the water retail market opened to businesses across England, meaning business water customers are able to switch providers. Whilst the water wholesaler will remain geographically determined, the licensed provider i.e. the company undertaking the billing and meter readings, can be chosen by the customer.



Wind Power

Britain has enough wind to power the country several times over. Turbines harness this energy by working like an old-fashioned windmill with rotor blades that face into the wind. When the blades are spinning, they drive a shaft that is connected to an electrical generator.

Tidal Energy

British mainland coastline is 11,072 miles long and has some of the highest tidal ranges in the world. The tidal range in the Severn Estuary that creates the Severn Bore can be as much as 50 feet (15.4 metres), the second highest in the world.

Hydro

Hydro is energy taken from flowing water and converted to electricity. There are many methods to capture this, the most common of which is using a hydroelectric dam, where water flows through an area that causes turbines to rotate. The energy then powers the generator.

Solar

Solar energy is used for generating electricity. This is accomplished with the use of solar cells. A solar cell is a semiconductor for converting light to an electric current.

T: 01708 765 555

E: info@energycentric.co.uk

W: www.htautilities.co.uk

Ideal Lights

Energy Saving Lighting

Ideal Lights are experts in providing Energy Saving Lighting Solutions which not only save money but improve the look and feel of your Garden Centre

What can HTA Members save?

A medium sized HTA Member saves the following each year:

Reduced energy costs	£25,936
Maintenance savings	£1,530
Lamp replacement savings	£1,325
Total annual savings	£28,791

The projected Return on Investment for garden centres after upgrading to LED Lighting is 23.4 months.



Ideal Lights are a Carbon Trust approved supplier, there is still Green Rebate available for a limited time which Ideal Lights can help HTA Members access. ROI with Green Energy Fund is 19.2 months.

LED lighting projects are also eligible for ECAs (Enhanced Capital Allowance) which can provide additional financial returns*.

“It has been an exciting year and a half working with the HTA and its Members, we have seen excellent proven results for energy savings and improved lighting across a number of different sites.”

Lindsay Atkins-Fall
Managing Director, Ideal Lights



Working with Ideal Lights

In order to ascertain potential lighting savings, Ideal Lights will carry out a free onsite survey for HTA Members, then compile an asset register of existing lamps. This will then be used to produce an energy saving report detailing the proposed LED project lighting and the savings available.

What else can Ideal Lights do for you?

Ideal Lights can work with you to include additional energy saving measures such as movement and lux sensors or aesthetic LED Lighting should you have specific requirements or improvements you wish to make.

If you are based in Wales there is interest free funding still available which Ideal Lights can help you access, making your project cash flow positive from day one.

T: 01633 508 037

E: hta@ideallights.co.uk

W: www.ideallights.co.uk

* ECA advice should be sought from a qualified accountant

Ecogen

Plastic recycling

Preferred Partner Ecogen Recycling provide a recycling solution covering plant pots and trays, as well as other recyclable materials (including cardboard and clear plastic)

85% of the plastics produced in the UK end up in landfill. Ecogen buck this trend, buying, collecting and recycling 100% of the plastics they handle, ensuring that none of it ends up in landfill.

Many businesses produce commercial plastic waste as a by-product of manufacturing or simply by way of plastic packaging in their day-to-day operation. While the production of this waste is often unavoidable, sending it to landfill is not. The vast majority of plastic waste can now be recycled and an increasing number of manufacturers are opting to use recycled plastics.

Ecogen can help with the recycling of your plastic waste. Their dedicated account managers can set up a plastic waste management solution that suits your needs and organise speedy and efficient collection from any location nationwide, before processing the plastic for recycling. This achieves maximum material recovery and minimum carbon footprint.

Not only that, but commercial plastic recycling can often represent a cost-neutral or even profit-generating exercise, with Ecogen offering market-leading rebates for plastic waste.



Their recycling facilities can process the following polymers:

- PET - Polyethylene Terephthalate
- HDPE - High Density Polyethylene
- PVC - Polyvinyl Chloride
- LDPE - Low Density Polyethylene
- PP - Polypropylene
- PS - Polystyrene
- EPS - Expanded Polystyrene
- PC - Polycarbonate
- PA - Nylon
- PMMA - Acrylic (Polymethyl Methacrylate)
- ABS - Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene
- Plastic Film

It's a great way to remove waste from site responsibly, reduce landfill and make your business more sustainable. The service saves you time, it's competitive, and gives you the reassurance of working with a reputable supplier. Ecogen Recycling are already working with several HTA members and are very familiar with our industry's needs.

T: 01962 732 296

E: info@ecogenrecycling.co.uk

W: www.ecogenrecycling.co.uk

2 Circles

Business communications

2 Circles are supportive of their partners' efforts to reduce their impact on the environment.

Having greener partners means the solutions they are providing are greener too.

Connectivity is the foundation on which their business is built, with products such as broadband, fibre-optics and audio/video conferences enabling remote ways of working with less mobility, which reduces energy consumption, carbon emissions and air pollution.

Energy-efficiency Facilitation

2 Circles are an enabler of energy efficiency for other sectors and end customers.

Digitalisation and connectivity are key instruments for dealing with the environmental challenges affecting society at large: climate change, water shortages, pollution, and loss of biodiversity. 2 Circles is committed to reducing its own carbon footprint, but they also offer solutions to reduce their customers' emissions.



Phone recycling

2 Circles actively promote mobile recycling by working closely with *Spotlight on Africa*, a Charity that rehomes unwanted, working phones to Uganda, ensuring they get a second life and avoiding non-ecological disposal.

Recycling cell phones helps the environment by saving energy, conserving natural resources, and stopping harmful chemicals leaking into the environment and saving resources.

Working with greener partners

By working with companies that are themselves committed to create a greener planet, 2 Circles are able to offer greener products to the market.

2 Circles are experts in helping businesses access Government funding to upgrade their connection to the internet to a truly business-grade service.

T: 03456 20 200

E: hta@2circles.com

W: www.2circles.com

ecoVeritas

Sustainable packaging solutions

Businesses that turn over **more than £2 million** and handle **more than 50 tonnes of packaging waste** must comply with the Packaging Waste Regulations.

We have two products for our members to help comply. The first is the *Threshold Calculator* to see if you're producing more than 50 tonnes of packaging waste, which can be tricky to work out. The second is the *WorkBook* that shows you what your obligation is under the regulations if you 'qualify'. They're both spreadsheets, and they work by you entering data about your business. Based on your input, they give you data and information on compliance for your business. The products are approved by the Environment Agency.

The Threshold Calculator

The Threshold Calculator is a spreadsheet and comes with instructions on how to fill it out. We've produced versions for commercial growers and garden retailers. The calculations are based on your turnover in different categories. The calculator shows you whether or not you fall within the packaging waste regulations by calculating how much packaging waste you are likely to be producing.

The WorkBook

Like the Threshold Calculator, we have versions of the WorkBook for commercial growers and for garden retailers. The WorkBook includes the Threshold Calculator, but also shows what your recycling and recovery obligation is if you're producing more than 50 tonnes of packaging waste.

Pricing

The WorkBook varies in price according to your turnover (as reflected in the band of your HTA membership subscription). You can purchase the calculator to check if you need the WorkBook and, if you do need the WorkBook, you can deduct the price of the calculator from that of the WorkBook. Visit <https://hta.org.uk/assurance-compliance/recycling/package-waste.html> for current pricing.



What to do if you fall within the regulations

Joining a *Packaging Compliance Scheme* will help you comply with the regulations. You'll need to do the following:

- Register with the relevant agency by 7 April each year (the Environment Agency, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency or Natural Resources Wales).
- Meet your recovery and recycling obligation for your packaging handled in the previous year.
- Provide a certificate of compliance to the relevant Agency by 31 January of the following year.

How to join a scheme

We recommend HTA members join the *WastePack packaging compliance scheme*, but whatever scheme you join, you'll need to check its timescales as you usually have to register early in the year.

Further advice and information

ecoVeritas compiles the WorkBook and operates our *Waste Regulations advice line*. They will be more than happy to check the WorkBook for you before you send it in, but do allow 2 to 3 working days at least before the deadline.

T: 0333 005 0177

E: wasteregs@hta.org.uk

W: www.ecoveritas.com

E-learning

Training for your employees

Plant Healthy

The Plant Health Alliance is pleased to offer five Plant Healthy training modules. The modules cover a range of subjects fundamental to the management of plant health and biosecurity in the UK.



Plant
Healthy

Starting with regulations and controls, the modules progress to cover how to conduct a Pest Risk Analysis for a horticultural business or organisation's site. Also covered are:

- Regulations and controls
- How to conduct a Pest Risk Analysis Types of harmful organisms and how they spread
- Good plant biosecurity practice in relation to the Plant Health Management Standard
- Plant Health responsibility and recognition, with a description of how to progress onto the Plant Health Professional Register (administered by the Royal Society of Biology.)

The modules are a free e-learning resource to help businesses and organisations understand what they need to know and actions they can take in order to protect plant and tree health. These modules are designed to gather feedback from users to help hone plant health information to improve plant biosecurity in the UK.

[Delivered on behalf of the Plant Health Alliance.](#)

Water Conservation

(new course coming early 2021)

This course will provide you with the knowledge to embed best practice in water efficiency and how to use water responsibly. The following topics are covered:

- Planning and maintaining water efficiency checklist
- Code of best practise.
- Dry weather and drought advice.
- Future proofing and next steps.

Developed with water partners.

[Will be available at HTA HUB.](#)



THE HUB

UGPPPS (UGPPPS ROI)

Using Garden Plant Protection Products Safely (UGPPPS)

This course will help you understand the labels of garden plant protection products and how to advise customers on their use, storage, and safe disposal.

UGPPPS will teach you:

- When to use a selective or non-selective weed killer.
- How to use concentrate and ready-to-use products.
- How residual weed killers work and how to use them safely.
- How to dispose of unused products and how to dispose of the container safely.
- How to use Garden Plant Protection Products safely around children and pets.
- How to store products safely at home.
- How much product to use in different circumstances.
- When you should be spraying.
- How to apply Garden Plant Protection Products correctly.
- How to avoid risks to wildlife and the environment when using them.

*Developed with [CPA](#) and [Persore College](#).
[Available at HTA HUB.](#)*

Plant Area Care

This course provides an overview of the 3 key areas of plant area care: being knowledgeable about stock, maintaining healthy plants and basic biosecurity

You'll be given an overview on how to deal with stock deliveries and how to check they are compliant with Plant Passport (PP) and Phytosanitary Certificate (PC).

Maintaining plants in a nursery fresh condition – watering regime and understanding how to protect plants from different weather conditions.

This course finishes off with a general overview of Plant Area Care and the potential hazards you could face.

[Available at HTA HUB.](#)

HTA Advice Lines

Additional support for your business



Dove Associates

0333 005 0167

nurseryproduction@hta.org.uk

DOVE
ASSOCIATES

Helping you to grow has been the motto of Dove Associates for over 25 years. A quick call to the Nursery Stock Advice Line is a valuable tool for so many HTA members and for some it is their first port of call.

With so much legislation covering water, pesticides and plant health, members can depend on the advice line for a full, quick and accurate answer to their nursery stock issue.

With BASIS qualified staff, Dove Associates can offer help, free of charge, to members who contact us.

The range of subjects provided include:

- Pest and disease identification
- Crop protection product support
- Feeding products and rates
- Growing media selection
- Herbicide selection
- Propagation timing and support
- Crop production parameters
- Grant application advice
- Glasshouse and Tunnel design
- Mechanisation
- Heating system advice
- Nursery Health & Safety support
- Import and Export advice
- Issues with Plant Health and HSE
- Irrigation design support
- Water Abstraction advice
- Supplier mediation

Newleaf Sustainability Practice

0333 005 0175

sustainability@hta.org.uk



Newleaf is a sustainability practice that specialises in product sustainability and responsible supply chains.

Newleaf specialises in building trust in your supply chain by sourcing natural intelligence and making it count for business.

What is Natural Intelligence?

It's the term Newleaf use to describe the data and information they gather on the environmental and social impacts of a product and its supply chain. Newleaf use it to build understanding and knowledge and to underpin planning and problem solving.

And how do Newleaf make it count for business? They make the information directly relevant for sales, for building trust with customers, for reporting and for designing strategies that will reduce the impacts of products and supply chains on the natural world and communities.