



NetRegs updates straight to your mailbox

[View this email in your browser](#)



September 2018

In this month's update...

[New on NetRegs](#), [New Legislation](#), [Consultations](#), [Updates](#), and [Events](#)

New on NetRegs



Read our latest blogs

See our latest blogs below:

- [Why you need a green team](#) - Read our blog on [why your business needs a green team](#)
- [Good to Go](#) - Read our blog on [Good to Go - encourage customers to take uneaten food home](#)
- [Sustainable waste management for farmers](#) - Read our article on [Sustainable waste management for farmers](#)

New Legislation



The Plant Health (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Order 2018

This instrument amends the Plant Health (Scotland) Order 2005 to revoke the 2007 decision which introduced emergency measures to prevent the introduction and spread of *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (Oliver), also known as Red Palm Weevil.

The Regulations came into force on 19 September 2018.

You can view the full text of the Regulations here:

[The Plant Health \(Scotland\) Amendment \(No. 2\) Order 2018](#)

Consultations



Scottish Government Consultation: On the Strategic Environmental Assessment for 15 proposed Special Protection Areas

This consultation seeks views on the scenarios, results and conclusions presented in the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the network assessment for the classification of 15 proposed Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

The consultation closes on 09 November 2018.

You can find out more and view the consultation documents here:

[Consultation on the Strategic Environmental Assessment for 15 proposed Special Protection Areas](#)

Regulation of felling and restocking: consultation

This consultation seeks views on the proposals for regulating felling and restocking in Scotland from 1 April 2019.

Forestry contributes almost £1 billion per year to the Scottish economy and supports more than 25,000 full-time equivalent jobs. Forests and woodland cover 18% of the land area of Scotland (approximately 1.4 million hectares). This represents 45% of the UK's forests.

This consultation closes on 14 Oct 2018

You can find out more and view the consultation documents here:

[Regulation of felling and restocking: consultation](#)

Updates

SEPA to end exemptions for burning farm plastics

SEPA has announced its next steps to stem the plastic tide by confirming it will end exemptions for burning most types of agricultural waste from **1 January 2019**.

Whilst a change in Scotland's environmental regulations in 2013 meant farmers could continue burning plastics only under an exemption, the agency is moving to reduce the environmental impacts of farm waste.



SEPA to end exemptions for burning farm plastics

Exemptions for burning most types of agricultural waste, including plastics, will end from 1 January 2019. The move, which will affect silage wrap, crop covers, fertiliser bags and containers, follows extensive discussions between SEPA and Zero Waste Scotland. SEPA has also worked closely with National Farmers Union (NFU) Scotland to roll out the change which will feature ongoing dialogue with farmers and crofters over the coming months.

Read more here:

[Information leaflet – End of the road for on-farm burning](#)

[SEPA website – Burning on-farm waste](#)

Time to check your soil

A comprehensive 'MOT for the soil', measuring everything from pH levels to earthworm activity, has been created by Scotland's Rural College.

Developed by researchers in the Crop and Soil Systems team and delivered by specialists in SAC Consulting, the SRUC Soil Health Test measures components such as organic matter, physical



structure, mineralisable nitrogen and even the number of worms

You can find more information on SRUC's new Soil Health Test here:

[An MOT for your soil](#)

Leading the way to a low carbon future

A national task force to advise on how Scotland achieves a carbon –neutral economy has been launched.

The Just Transition Commission, a commitment under the Programme for Government, will look at how to maximise opportunities of decarbonisation, in terms of fair work and tackling inequalities, while delivering a sustainable and inclusive labour market.

Read more here:

[Leading the way to a low carbon future](#)



Classification and assessment of packaging waste guidance

Trade Associations representing companies operating in the UK chemicals supply chain packaging industry have joined forces to develop [guidance on classification and assessment packaging waste](#).

The document, which is intended to be complementary to WM3 (Waste classification guidance), focuses on waste packaging (containers, ranging from bags, boxes, bottles and tins to kegs, barrels, drums, and IBCs). It includes a flow chart for assessing whether packaging to be taken offsite is waste or not and, if it is waste, whether it is waste packaging or not and whether it should be classified as hazardous or non-hazardous.

You can read the guidance here:

[The assessment and classification of waste packaging](#)

*The assessment and
classification of waste*

Calling all landlords - Be efficient and plan ahead!

Homes in the private rented sector are some of the least energy efficient in Scotland. To tackle this, the Scottish Government has announced that minimum energy efficiency standards will be introduced for privately rented housing. By March 2025, private rental properties will need to have a minimum EPC rating of Band D.



To help you tackle this, a specialist advisor from Home Energy Scotland can visit your rental property and assess what energy efficiency improvements you could make. You will get a free tailored report which outlines the recommended measures, the cost of making improvements, information about funding and potential carbon and financial savings. The specialist will talk you through the report and help you decide what's right for you.

Alternatively, you can call Home Energy Scotland on 0808 808 2282 to get free, impartial advice and find out what funding you're eligible. You can also email: advice@sc.homenergyscotland.org

Water Framework Directive (WFD) Classification

SEPA produce an annual [Water Framework Directive \(WFD\)](#) Classification for all of the water bodies in Scotland. Classification results have been recently updated to include the 2017 results.



You can view the results using the following tools:

- [Water Classification Hub](#)
- [SEWeb map](#)

Events



Farmers invited to intercropping Field Lab

When: Tuesday 23 October 2018, 10:30 – 16:00.

Where: Balmaise Community Centre, Linnwood Drive, Leven, KY8 5AE

The James Hutton Institute has teamed up with the Soil Association Scotland and SRUC to work with farmers in a Field Lab to trial crop mixtures or 'plant teams'. Field Labs are free to attend and open to all land managers, whether organic or not. They allow farmers to test out innovative real-life solutions to practical challenges, with input from experts.

Read more or register here:

[Soil Association Scotland – Field Lab: Plant Teams](#)

Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) - Opportunities and Success Stories

When: Thursday 18th October 2018, 09:30 – 13:00 (complimentary networking lunch will be provided).

Where: Abertay University, Room 1502, Bell Street, Dundee DD1 1HG

Innovation can be key to accelerate a business to the next level. A company may have an innovative idea or challenge that they believe will lead to increased productivity and business growth, but they lack the skills or expertise to develop it. A KTP program may be the perfect solution.

Read more or register here:

[Knowledge Transfer Partnership \(KTP\) - Opportunities and Success Stories](#)

Circular Economy Means Business

When: 8 November 2018, 10:00 - 12:00.

Where: The Enterprise Hub, 1 Falkland Gate, Glenrothes, KY7 5NS

As part of Fife Business Week, Anderson Swan Hunter Ltd (ASH) are hosting a FREE event in conjunction with Green Business Fife (GBF) to explain what is meant by adopting Circular Economy principles to make businesses more innovative and sustainable.

At the event you will learn about Circular Economy, Lifecycle Assessment, Resource Efficiency and Natural Capital, how these are interlinked and see examples of circular economy in practice.

By the end of the session, you will have a better understanding of the terminology used and how to apply these principles to your business model.

Read more or register here:

[Circular Economy Means Business](#)

Scottish Resources Conference 2018

When: 3 – 4 October 2018

Where: EICC, Edinburgh, EH3 8EE

The Scottish Resources Conference is a two-day event for sustainability, resource and waste management professionals. The event, which is run in partnership with CIWM, Zero Waste Scotland and SEPA, sees professionals from private, public and third sector organisations come together to discuss the challenges, issues, innovations and solutions to creating a waste free Scotland.

For more details visit the event website here:

[Scottish Resources Conference 2018](#)

Missed last month's update?

Visit the [updates archive on NetRegs](#) to view any of the previous updates.

To view last month's email update click the link below:

[**NetRegs update - August 2018**](#)



Copyright © 2016 Scottish Environment Protection Agency, all rights reserved. You signed up to receive this email either via our website, by emailing us, or by subscribing to the old Business Environmental Update.

Our mailing address is:

SEPA - NetRegs
Strathallan House
Castle Business Park
Stirling, Scotland FK9 4TZ
United Kingdom

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)