



THE ISLE OF GIGHA HERITAGE TRUST

DEAD & FALLEN WOOD POLICY

Revision History

Version No.	Comments	Author	Date Issued	Status
V2	Addition of Achamore + firewood guidance. New location plan.	Jane Macintyre	31.10.2025	Approved

1. GENERAL AGREEMENT

- This Policy covers the following areas of woodland: Woodend, The Spout, The Lodge Drive, Achamore Gardens, and the football pitch. A location plan included within this policy.
- This Policy allows dead/fallen woodland to be processed by individuals with agreement from IGHT. Agreement from IGHT will be granted based on an environmental protection assessment and to ensure a 20% deadwood volume remains in woodlands.
- No living trees or branches should be cut. This policy applies solely to dead/fallen wood only.
- Windblown trees, often referred to as windthrow, are trees that have been uprooted or broken due to strong winds. These trees are excluded from this policy as they require careful planning and safety precautions.
- No trees under 2 cubic meters should be taken. Only volumes of 2 cubic meters or more can be provided as per UK legislation.
- Only residents of the island can take advantage of the provisions in this policy.
- Any other interested parties must contact the IGHT office and make specific arrangements should this be deemed appropriate.

2. FIREWOOD

- Fallen/dead wood that residents process for firewood is not suitable for burning until it has been dried. Residents should not burn wood until it has a moisture content of 20% or less.
- Wet wood contains moisture which creates smoke and harmful particulates when burnt. As well as being harmful to health and the environment, this can damage stoves and chimneys and is an inefficient way to heat a home. It can also increase the risk of stove and chimney fires.
- Dry it in a sunny, well-aired space for at least two years, keeping rain off in the winter.
- Radial cracks and bark that comes off easily suggests wood that is ready for burning.
- Test the wood when you think it is ready for burning, ideally with a moisture meter. First calibrate the meter and then measure a freshly split surface to get the best reading.

3. IDENTIFIED TREES

- If a resident identifies a dead/fallen tree that they would like to process, they must contact the office and get permission from the Countryside Ranger Service.
- Written permission will be provided if approved and the resident will be asked to sign a disclaimer in the Trust Office.
- A donation should be made before any work is carried out (recommended donations are below).
- The Trust will provide safety signage should the works take place near to a public path or road however the Trust will not provide any labour, equipment or insurance.
- It is the responsibility of the resident to ensure his/her safety and those of others in and around the worksite of the nominated tree.
- The resident should ensure that either they or whoever they contract has the appropriate chainsaw certification, equipment and PPE required to process wood.

- The site is to be tidied and brush either removed or stacked in piles before being signed off.
- The identified tree/wood must be removed from the site within a month.
- Any damage whatsoever is the responsibility of the resident and is to be repaired at their own expense.
- During bird nesting season (Feb-Sep), additional approval from the Countryside Ranger Service is required for chainsaw use.

4. RECOMMENDED DONATION

HARDWOOD

Measured by Circumference

1.5 meter and under - SMALL - £30

1.5 meter - 2.5meter - MEDIUM - £50

2.5 meter - 3 meter - LARGE - £70

3 meters upward - EXTRA LARGE - negotiable

SOFT WOOD

Measured by Circumference

Small/medium - £30

Large/XL - £50

5. LOCATION MAP



IGHT Fallen & Dead Wood Policy

DISCLAIMER

I _____ voluntarily accept the risks of cutting up dead/fallen wood and agree to waive all liability claims against The Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust if an accident or incident occurs during the process.

This waiver includes but is not limited to liability for personal injuries while working on the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust land. This waiver also includes all injuries resulting from natural disaster or inclement weather, accidental death, and all premises liability claims.

I am competent in my abilities to process dead/fallen wood along with the knowledge, experience, and skill for the work to be undertaken. I am aware that any damage whatsoever is to be repaired at my expense.

Loggers signature _____

IGHT signature _____