



Land and Nature Services

Protecting and enhancing the
natural and historic environment

Helping clients understand environmental constraints, balance development with nature and heritage, and make informed decisions that deliver long-term environmental value.





Cura Terrae is a leading environmental services group dedicated to helping organisations understand and manage their environmental responsibilities and deliver more sustainable outcomes. Bringing together five specialist environmental divisions, we provide a broad range of expertise, services and solutions to clients across a diverse range of sectors.



Experts in Land and Nature

Providing the expertise to understand, protect and enhance the places around us

Our Land & Nature specialists bring together expertise across the natural, built and historic environment to help clients understand these connections, identify constraints and opportunities, and make informed decisions about the future of a site, landscape or asset.

From early surveys and environmental assessment through design, consenting and practical delivery to restoration, enhancement and long-term management, we provide expertise throughout the environmental lifecycle.

Our work supports development and infrastructure, conservation and restoration, utilities, energy, transport, public-sector projects and organisations responsible for managing land and natural environments.

Areas of Expertise

- Nature Services
- Historic Environment
- Water & Engineering
- Environmental Design & Assessment
- Environmental Contracting & Site Services

Assembling the right team

Our multidisciplinary approach enables us to look beyond individual environmental disciplines and consider the wider context of a place, bringing together the right expertise around each project.

Nature Services

Protecting and enhancing biodiversity through evidence-led ecological expertise

Understanding the habitats, species and ecological value associated with a site is essential to managing environmental risk, meeting regulatory requirements and identifying opportunities for nature.

Our specialists provide ecological surveys, assessment and practical advice throughout the project lifecycle, helping clients establish robust baseline information, understand potential impacts and make informed decisions.

From protected species and habitat assessment to Biodiversity Net Gain, arboriculture, mitigation and long-term monitoring, we help clients protect existing environmental value while identifying opportunities to restore and enhance nature.

Areas of Expertise

- Ecology
- Biodiversity Net Gain
- Arboriculture

Case Study

Creating a biodiverse, community-focused housing development

Bringing ecology, arboriculture and landscape expertise together to support planning and create long-term value for residents and wildlife

Client & Challenge

Hoober Urban Partnerships and Yorkshire Housing were planning a 58-home development in Holme-Upon-Spalding-Moor. The semi-rural site included a range of habitats with potential to house protected species, while the development also needed to achieve 10% Biodiversity Net Gain and integrate sensitively into the surrounding landscape.

Solution

Cura Terrae's Ecology, Arboriculture and Landscape teams worked together from the outset, providing ecological appraisal and protected species surveys alongside a Biodiversity Net Gain assessment and Landscape Design. Biodiversity measures were integrated into the landscape strategy, while Construction Environmental Management and Habitat Management and Monitoring Plans were developed to protect and manage the environment during construction and into the future.

"Securing planning permission for a development of this scale depends on getting the ecological detail right first time. Cura Terrae's Ecology, Arboriculture, and Landscape teams worked together from the outset, so the Biodiversity Net Gain assessment, the water vole surveys, and the landscape strategy all supported one another rather than being handled in isolation. That joined-up approach gave us a strong, well-evidenced application and prevented avoidable delays. The result will be a scheme we're proud of, that gives our partner well thought-out green space at its heart."

Hoober Urban Partnerships Ltd



Key Benefits

- Multidisciplinary expertise provided through one coordinated team
- Environmental considerations addressed early to support a robust planning application
- 10% Biodiversity Net Gain incorporated into the proposals
- Long-term habitat management and monitoring built into the development
- Planning permission secured for the 58-home scheme

Historic Environment

Understanding and protecting our heritage to inform the future

The historic environment is an important part of the character and identity of a place. Understanding archaeological and heritage considerations early can help manage risk, inform design and support responsible decisions about change.

Our specialists combine desk-based research and assessment with practical field investigation, providing archaeology, heritage and geophysical expertise from early feasibility and consultation through investigation, consenting, fieldwork and recording.

This integrated approach allows us to build a clear understanding of a site's historic environment, using existing evidence alongside information gathered on the ground to help clients manage heritage risk and make informed decisions.

Areas of Expertise

- Archaeology
- Heritage
- Geophysics

Case Study

Uncovering Derby's industrial past at Castleward

Archaeological excavation supporting the next phase of a major urban development

Client & Challenge

Compendium Living required archaeological works as part of Phase 3b of the Castleward development in Derby. Cura Terrae worked with the county archaeologist to agree an appropriate excavation strategy, with the works designed to further understanding of nineteenth-century land use and development in the area.

Solution

Our Archaeology team undertook a strip, map and record excavation across two targeted areas. The works uncovered evidence of a Victorian smithy and 1840s terraced housing, alongside associated buildings and significant finds. Archaeological remains were recorded through photography, GPS and detailed drawings, with selected finds recovered for further processing.

Key Benefits

- Archaeological works completed to the agreed deadline
- Requirements agreed with and delivered in accordance with the county archaeologist's criteria
- Important evidence of the site's nineteenth-century development recorded
- Significant archaeological finds recovered for further assessment



CompendiumLiving
CREATING A REAL SENSE OF PLACE



Water & Engineering



Working with water and natural systems to create practical, resilient solutions

Water shapes landscapes, habitats, infrastructure and communities. Understanding how water moves through a site or catchment, and how it interacts with the surrounding environment, is essential to managing risk and creating resilient solutions.

Our specialists combine assessment, modelling, restoration, engineering and monitoring expertise to help clients understand water-related challenges and develop practical responses.

From flood risk and drainage to river, wetland and peatland restoration, we work with natural processes wherever possible to improve environmental function, build resilience and deliver long-term value.

Areas of Expertise

- Assessment & Modelling
- Nature Based Solutions
- Management & Monitoring



Case Study

Natural flood management on the River Dove

Using assessment, hydraulic modelling and nature-based design to reduce flood risk and create wider environmental benefits

Client & Challenge

The Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership was working with project partners to deliver natural flood management across the River Dove catchment. At Grouse Hall, upstream of a village affected by regular flooding, the river had become incised and disconnected from its floodplain, presenting an opportunity to restore natural processes and increase flood storage.



Solution

Cura Terrae assessed and modelled a range of Natural Flood Management measures to understand their effect on downstream flows. Using hydromorphological assessment, targeted topographic survey, LiDAR data and hydraulic modelling, we developed a preferred design incorporating floodplain lowering, landscaping, pools and woody features to reconnect the river with its floodplain and increase storage.

Key Benefits

- Increased floodplain connectivity and storage
- Following construction, the floodplain successfully stored flows during an approximately 1-in-20-year flood event
- Created more diverse habitats alongside the flood management measures
- Deeper pools retained water during drought conditions, with lapwing observed nesting nearby

Environmental Design & Assessment

Bridging environmental insight into better project planning and design

Environmental considerations can influence a project long before work begins. Understanding them early helps identify constraints, reduce uncertainty and create opportunities for better design and environmental outcomes.

Our multidisciplinary specialists combine environmental assessment, planning and design expertise to help clients understand the wider environmental picture and make informed decisions throughout project development.

Areas of Expertise

- ▶ Air Quality
- ▶ Acoustics
- ▶ Environmental Impact Assessment
- ▶ Geo-Environmental
- ▶ Landscape

Case Study

Multidisciplinary environmental support for a 35MW solar farm

Supporting renewable energy development through coordinated environmental assessment, design and mitigation.

Client & Challenge

ABEI Energy proposed a 35MW solar farm across approximately 49 hectares of agricultural Green Belt land in South Derbyshire. The project required careful consideration of landscape and visual impacts, cultural heritage, ecology, transport, land and soils, alongside noise, arboriculture, flood risk and drainage.

Solution

Cura Terrae undertook the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and prepared the associated Environmental Statement, alongside a range of standalone technical assessments. Working collaboratively with ABEI Energy, environmental considerations were incorporated into the project design, including retention and enhancement of existing vegetation, strategic planting, buffers around sensitive environmental features and the creation of new habitats to support biodiversity.



Key Benefits

- ▶ Significant environmental effects avoided where possible and otherwise minimised through design and mitigation
- ▶ Rural landscape character and public rights of way maintained
- ▶ Existing agricultural use retained through sheep grazing beneath and between the solar panels
- ▶ Proposals designed to achieve an overall net gain for biodiversity



Environmental Contracting & Site Services

Turning environmental plans into practical action on the ground

Successful environmental outcomes depend on more than good planning and assessment. They require practical delivery on the ground, alongside the right environmental oversight as projects progress.

Our specialists provide environmental contracting and site-based support across habitat creation, enhancement, restoration and management, as well as environmental monitoring and supervision during construction and other site activities.

From delivering habitat improvements and protected species mitigation to providing Environmental and Ecological Clerks of Works, monitoring and environmental management plans, we help clients put environmental commitments into practice and manage risks throughout project delivery.

Areas of Expertise

- Habitat Creation and Restoration
- Environmental Site Services

Case Study

Invasive species management in the North York Moors

Removing an invasive non-native species to protect sensitive habitats and prevent its spread into a nearby watercourse.

Client & Challenge

North York Moors National Park needed support to remove New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*) across two ponds and reduce the risk of it spreading to the nearby River Seph. The sites presented practical challenges due to pond depth, wet ground conditions and the need for strict biosecurity measures.

Solution

Our Habitats team developed a treatment approach combining high-density polyethylene sheeting with targeted treatment of uncovered areas. Following an ecology survey, the team installed and secured the sheeting across the ponds to block sunlight and control the invasive species, while minimising the use of herbicide close to the watercourse. The team adapted its approach to overcome difficult access and site conditions.



**North York Moors
National Park**

Key Benefits

- Helped prevent the invasive species spreading into surrounding habitats and the nearby River Seph
- Reduced potential impacts on native species and biodiversity
- Used a targeted approach designed to control the invasive species while minimising wider environmental impacts
- Delivered the programme on time despite site and supplier challenges



Connected Expertise

Environmental challenges don't fit neatly within site boundaries

Land-based projects rarely involve a single environmental consideration. Ecology, heritage, landscape, water, air quality, ground conditions and environmental compliance can all influence how a project is planned, designed and delivered.

As part of Cura Terrae, our Land & Nature specialists can draw on expertise from across the Group, bringing together the right disciplines around the needs of each project.

This gives clients access to specialist land and environmental expertise alongside complementary marine, air, water and compliance services through one connected team — helping to identify interactions earlier, reduce complexity and support better-informed decisions.

Land & Nature

Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment

- ▶ Nature Services
- ▶ Historic Environment
- ▶ Water & Engineering
- ▶ Environmental Contracting & Site Services
- ▶ Environmental Design & Assessment

Water

Delivering intelligent water and wastewater solutions

- ▶ Water Quality Monitoring
- ▶ Flow Surveys
- ▶ Flow & Load Surveys
- ▶ Water Environment Assessment & Design
- ▶ Discharge Monitoring & Compliance
- ▶ Artificial Intelligence for Wastewater Asset Optimisation
- ▶ Innovation

Marine & Coastal

Supporting sustainable marine and coastal environments

- ▶ Coastal Processes & Climate Resilience
- ▶ Marine & Coastal Ecology
- ▶ Marine Development, Consenting & Compliance
- ▶ Marine Dredging

Management & Compliance

Managing environmental responsibility with confidence

- ▶ Environmental Compliance
- ▶ Environmental Management
- ▶ Due Diligence & Risk
- ▶ Occupational Hygiene
- ▶ Training & Competence

Air

Understanding air pollution, managing emissions, and developing solutions

- ▶ MCERTS & UKAS Accredited Emissions Testing & Compliance
- ▶ Ambient & Indoor Air Quality Monitoring
- ▶ Air Quality Modelling and Impact Assessment
- ▶ MCERTS Continuous Emissions Monitoring Systems
- ▶ Service & Support
- ▶ Scientific & Research
- ▶ Workplace Air Monitoring





For more information

visit cura-terrae.com

☎ 0114 299 2409

✉ info@cura-terrae.com

Land & Nature

🌐 cura-terrae.com/landnature

☎ 0114 266 9292

✉ landnature@cura-terrae.com

Marine and Coastal

🌐 cura-terrae.com/marinecoastal

☎ 0141 341 5040

✉ marinecoastal@cura-terrae.com

Air

Ambient Air
/ CEMS

🌐 cura-terrae.com/air

☎ 0145 373 3200

✉ air@cura-terrae.com

Stack Testing

🌐 cura-terrae.com/emissionstesting

☎ 0127 473 8668

✉ stacks@cura-terrae.com

Water

🌐 cura-terrae.com/water

☎ 0114 272 2270

✉ water@cura-terrae.com

Management & Compliance

Environmental
Management

🌐 cura-terrae.com/environmentalmanagement

☎ 0114 272 2270

✉ envmng@cura-terrae.com

Occupational
Hygiene

🌐 cura-terrae.com/occupationalhygiene

☎ 0127 473 8668

✉ OH@cura-terrae.com

