

Wind-down of COVID-19 Support Arrangements for EcoMerit Members

Date of Issue: 16 November 2021

As we all adapt to the 'new normal' following what is hopefully the worst of the COVID impacts on our members, we will be discontinuing the COVID-19 support arrangements which have been in place since March 2020.

The following arrangements now apply:

- Our special [Covid support arrangements](#) will cease on 31st December 2021.
- Anyone at that time with a 'Renewal Pending' status of six months or more will have their certification permanently withdrawn unless they put in place specific arrangements with us.
- Anyone at that time with a 'renewal pending' status of three months or more will have their certificate suspended. Note that re-instatement of a suspended certificate incurs a re-instatement fee.
- Thereafter, surveillances which are more than three months overdue will result in certificate suspension in the normal way.
- The new [fee structure](#) will gradually be implemented with existing certificate holders during the course of 2022. Previous history and organisation type will be taken into account when agreeing the fees in each case.
- From 2022, Covid situation permitting, surveillances will return to being physical site visits. On-line visits may be considered for alternate years for smaller sites with a good track record. Their fee structure may be adjusted to reflect this.
- In extenuating circumstances, on-line surveillances may also be arranged on a case-by-case basis.

Also, given the success of on-line surveillances during the pandemic, we will discontinue biennial surveillances from 2022. These will be replaced by annual surveillances. Where appropriate, alternate surveillances may be carried out on-line.

Additional Notes:

EcoMerit members wishing to check the current status of their certification can do so [here](#)

The 'Renewal Pending' Status provided EcoMerit members with an extended grace period for completion and close-out of scheduled surveillances, instead of the normal three months.

If you have any questions about your certification status or any aspect of the above arrangements, please contact EcoMerit. We will be pleased to help.

From: The EcoMerit Team