

Comité des Connétables



2021 Visites du Branchage and Visites Royale

The 2021 Visites du Branchage and the Visites Royale will take place on the following dates*

| FIRST VISITE DU BRANCHAGE | PARISH | SECOND VISITE DU BRANCHAGE |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Fri. 9 July | ST BRELADE | Fri. 10 September |
| Fri. 25 June | ST CLEMENT | Fri. 3 September |
| Fri. 2 July | GROUVILLE | Fri. 17 September |
| Fri. 9 July | ST HELIER | Fri. 17 September |
| Thurs. 8 July | ST JOHN Visite Royale Wed. 18 Aug. | Thurs. 16 September |
| Wed. 7 July | ST LAWRENCE Visite Royale Wed. 11 Aug. | Tues. 7 September |
| Tues. 6 July | ST MARTIN Visite Royale Wed. 4 Aug. | Thurs. 9 September |
| Thurs. 24 June | ST MARY | Thurs. 9 September |
| Thurs. 1 July | ST OUËN | Thurs. 9 September |
| Thurs. 8 July | ST PETER | Thurs. 2 September |
| Thurs. 8 July | ST SAVIOUR | Tues. 21 September |
| Fri. 9 July | TRINITY | Fri. 17 September |

Occupiers** of land bordering on the public roads of the Parish must trim hedges and branches and cut all overhanging trees so as to give a clearance of 12 feet over main roads and by-roads and 8 feet over footpaths and must remove any other encroachments, including all cuttings and trimmings, on the public highway. A financial penalty up to £100 may be levied for each infraction.

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4 June 2021*

* dates correct at time of printing (includes change to St Peter 1st date and St Lawrence 2nd Visite date)

** the occupier of buildings or land is responsible but, for multiple occupancy properties, it is the company (if the property consists of share transfer flats) or the association of co-owners (if the property is flying freehold).

Your Roadside Plants and Hedges, Trees and Banks

a guide to the “branchage law”⁽¹⁾ for property occupiers⁽²⁾

The “branchage law”⁽¹⁾ makes roads and footpaths (‘footpaths’ includes pavements) safer for all who use them. It achieves this primarily by requiring that the width of roads and footpaths is not restricted by vegetation.

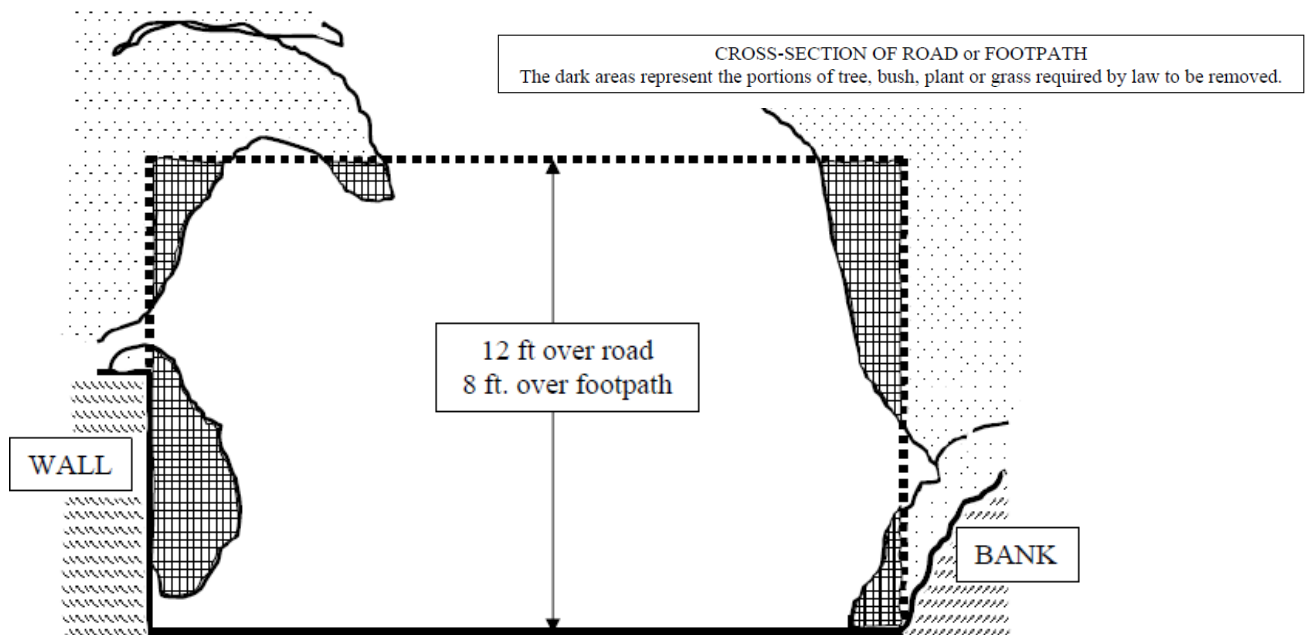
All occupiers of property ⁽²⁾ bordering public roads and public footpaths in Jersey are obliged by law to trim any vegetation growing on the property that encroaches over the road or footpath, so that it no longer encroaches. A minimum clearance of 12 feet above all public roads and 8 feet above public footpaths and pavements is required, measured vertically from the point at which the surface of the road or footpath meets the property (see drawing). The law requires that all cuttings must be removed.

On two occasions every year, parish officials tour their parishes to ensure that the law has been observed. If occupiers have not complied, they are liable to a financial penalty ⁽³⁾ and instructed to undertake the work. If the work is still not carried out, the parish authorities may arrange for it to be done by a contractor at the occupier's expense.

These official “Visites du Branchage” inspections take place during a 3-week period from 24 June and from 1 September, the exact dates being published in the Jersey Gazette at least a week before the first Visite.

Irrespective of these specific Visites du Branchage, it is the duty of the Connétable, at all times, to have all impediment branchage (literally “branches”) and other obstructions or nuisance removed from the public roads, with similar penalties applicable to those who do not comply.

1. Loi (1914) sur la Voirie and amendments. Branchage is pronounced "brawkaaj".
2. The occupier of buildings or land is responsible but, for multiple occupancy properties, it is the company (if the property consists of share transfer flats) or the association of co-owners (if the property is flying freehold).
3. Currently up to £100 per infraction.



JERSEY HEDGEHOG PRESERVATION GROUP <http://jerseyhedgehogs.co.uk/>



Please check for hedgehogs or other wildlife before you strim or cut.

If you discover an injured hedgehog please pick it up with gloves, put it in a bucket/dustbin/box and phone the Jersey Hedgehog Preservation Group (T: 01534 734340) for immediate help or take it to a vet.

If you disturb a nest with a mother and baby hedgehogs cover it over with the material you have cut away and leave the area. If you need to move the family so work may continue phone the Jersey Hedgehog Preservation Group (T: 01534 734340) for immediate help; then wearing gloves gently pick up Mum, then all the babies, and place in a bucket/dustbin/box and cover with as much original nest material as you can. If you touch the young with bare hands the mother may reject them.

If you find other injured wildlife or you discover a nest of another wildlife species please phone the JSPCA (T: 01534 724331) or your vet for advice – you should not be charged for wildlife.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN PROTECTING JERSEY'S WILDLIFE