



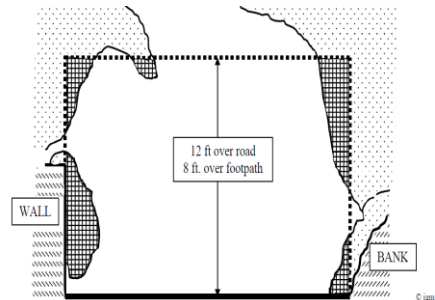
Parish of St Saviour

A Guide to the “Branchage Law”¹ for Property Occupiers²

Loi (1914) sur la Voirie – Visite du Branchage

The “Branchage Law” makes roads and footpaths ('footpaths' includes pavements) safer for all who use them. This is achieved by requiring that the width of roads and footpaths is not restricted by vegetation.

All occupiers of property 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 adjacent drawing). The dark areas represent the portions of tree, bush, plant or grass required by law to 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 penalty³ 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.

Irrespective of these specific ‘Visites’, it is the duty of the Constable, 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.
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. A financial penalty of up to £100 per infraction. Non-compliance with an order to remove the branchage within eight days is an offence and may incur a penalty of up to £1,000 (£200 if dealt with at a Parish Hall Enquiry); the Parish may also arrange for the work to be done at the occupier's expense.

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