

Banque, Hedgerow and Tree Management

GUIDELINES ON BEST BRANCHAGE PRACTICE

The 'Visite du Branchage' inspections take place twice a year in each parish during the three weeks commencing 24th June and the three weeks commencing 1st September. The Visites are to ensure that a height of at least 12 feet (3.7 metres) is kept above all public roads and 8 feet (2.4 metres) above footpaths at all times.

DO

- Use your skill to raise the flail head enough to avoid exposing bare soil.
- During the first branchage, cut only the sides of the banque to a minimum height of 10 cm.
- Leave the vegetation uncut on the top of the banque, as long as it does not overhang the road.
- On the second branchage in September, cut the sides and top of the banque to a minimum height of 10 cm.
- Leave tussocks of vegetation for wildlife where possible.
- Try to remove all cuttings; do not allow them to cover the banque or fall into the road.
- Check for the presence of wildlife in the vegetation, hedges and trees.
- Contact JSPCA if you find an injured animal (Tel: 01534 724331).
- Try to identify rare or uncommon plants and don't cut them on the first branchage, but do cut on the second branchage.
- Cut with hand tools whenever possible.

DON'T

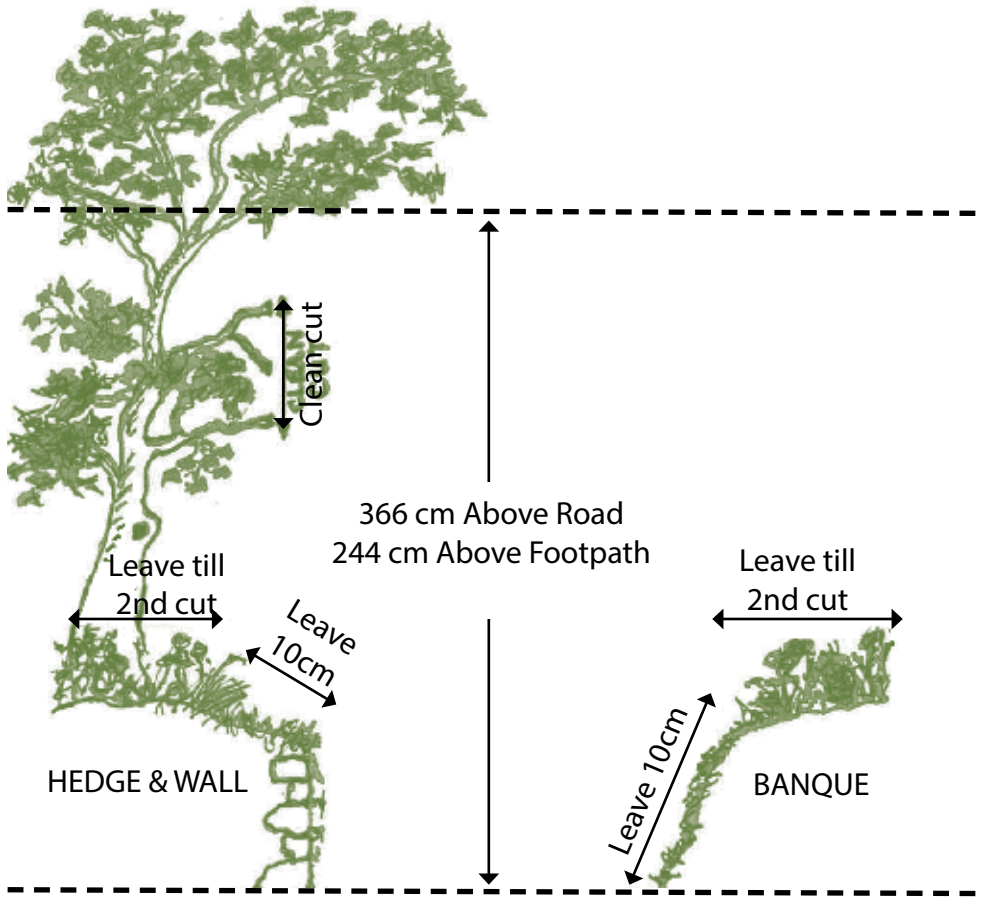
- Cut the vegetation around the base of trees, shrubs or hedges.
- Destroy nests or roosts or injure nesting birds, bats, hedgehogs or other wildlife.
- Carry out major hedge cutting in the bird breeding season (1st March - 31st July).
- Cut so severely that bare soil is exposed.
- Cut lower than 10 cm.
- Use herbicides for routine branchage practice.
- Flail or strim Japanese Knotweed (separate leaflet available - search 'Japanese Knotweed' on www.gov.je)
- Leave cuttings scattered across the banque.
- Cut the inner margin of hedgerows every year, and never in the spring or summer.
- Cut rare or endangered plants.

For more information and guidance regarding branchage practice and habitat management, please contact either the Natural Environment Team at Growth, Housing & Environment: Tel 01534 441600 or The National Trust for Jersey: Tel 01534 483193.

For injured wildlife please contact the JSPCA: Tel 01534 724331.

Asian Hornet sightings: Tel 01534 441633.

CROSS-SECTION OF ROAD or FOOTPATH



Metric Measurements
Above Road
clearance height 366 cm
Above Footpath
clearance height 244 cm