

Annual schedule of path maintenance

Path name: Garw Valley Community Route Year:

2019

	Activity	Avoid	Maintenance team	Contractors	Volunteers
All year round	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Litter picking – Subject to clearance 2. Sign repairs and cleaning 3. Path surface repairs 4. Clearing back path edge encroachment 5. Ditch clearance – if dry 6. Drainage pipes and catch pit inspection and clearance 7. Repairs to bridges and structures in conjunction with bridge engineer 8. Cut back of encroaching vegetation to path verge boundary 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter picking • Sign repairs • Path surface • Clearing edges • Ditch clearance • Structure repair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Path surface repairs • Specialist Repairs to bridges and structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter picking • Sign repairs and inspection • Clearing edges • Inspection and clearance of drainage pipes where safe to do so • Cut back of encroaching vegetation to path verge boundary
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove areas of scrub in grassland areas • Prune trees and look for storm damage • Clear vegetation from around knotweed sites to facilitate treatment later in the year • Clear vegetation around bridges and culverts • Remove saplings and vegetation encroaching on to path • Cut, flail or thin out hedgerows to agreed rotational plan • Lay hedgerows to agreed rotational plan • Bird box check (if you have any) - clean and note location and use • Fence repairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't paint unless warm and dry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove scrub • Prune trees • Clear vegetation from bridges and culverts • Remove saplings and vegetation encroaching on to path • Lay hedgerow • Repair fences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flail hedgerow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in vegetation removal and hedge laying • Clean out and repair nest boxes. Erect new boxes
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove areas of scrub in grassland areas – make dead hedges/habitat piles • Prune trees and look for storm damage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid pond work • Don't paint unless warm and dry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove scrub • Prune trees • Clear vegetation around bridges 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in vegetation removal and hedge laying

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear vegetation around bridges and culverts. • Lay hedges • Fence repairs 				
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear vegetation around bridges and culverts. (Depending on warmth that year) • Fence repairs • Sign cleaning and thorough check • Tree/hedge planting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not cut trees/scrub (Depending on warmth that year) • Avoid pond work • Avoid ditch clearance if wet • Don't paint unless warm and dry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear vegetation around bridges • Fence repairs • Sign cleaning and check 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign cleaning and repair/replace if required. • Tree/hedge planting
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting • Sign cleaning and thorough check 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not cut trees/scrub • Avoid pond work • Avoid ditch clearance if wet 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scraping and bramble clearance • Sign cleaning and repair/replace if required.
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st grass cut and rake (within 1-2 weeks of cut), building habitat piles • Himalayan balsam removal • Painting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not cut trees/scrub • Avoid pond work • Avoid ditch clearance if wet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Himalayan balsam removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Grass cut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Himalayan Balsam removal • Rake grass to build habitat piles
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tool audit and maintenance • Painting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not cut trees/scrub • Avoid pond work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tool audit and maintenance 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Path widening (Scraping) • Assist with hand tool audit and maintenance
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raking grassland areas after 2nd grass cut (within 1-2 weeks of cut), building habitat piles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not cut trees/scrub • Avoid pond work 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2nd grass cut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Path widening (Scraping) • Rake grass to build habitat piles

August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raking grassland areas after 2nd grass cut (within 1-2 weeks of cut), building habitat piles • Knotweed treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not cut trees/scrub • Avoid pond work 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knotweed treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rake grass to build habitat piles
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raking grassland areas after 2nd /3rd grass cut (within 1-2 weeks of cut), building habitat piles • Ditch clearance • Pond management (<i>if required</i>) - be cautious and precautionary with management – retain a good area of all the plant species or habitat types that are present in the pond. • Knotweed treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not cut trees/scrub • Avoid pond work 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knotweed treatment • 3rd grass cut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rake grass to build habitat piles
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland thinning, glade and scallop creation • Clear vegetation around bridges and culverts. • Ditch clearance • Knotweed treatment • Bat box checks (if you have any) with local bat group • Bird box check (if you have any) - clean and note location and use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't paint unless warm and dry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland thinning, glade and scallop creation • Knotweed treatment • Ditch clearance 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean out and repair nest boxes. Erect new boxes • Assist in vegetation removal
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove areas of scrub in grassland areas • Prune trees and look for storm damage • Clear vegetation from around knotweed sites to facilitate treatment later in the year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't paint unless warm and dry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove scrub • Prune trees • Clear vegetation from bridges and culverts • Remove saplings and vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flail hedgerow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in vegetation removal and hedge laying • Clean out and repair nest boxes. Erect new boxes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear vegetation around bridges and culverts • Remove saplings and vegetation encroaching on to path • Cut, flail or thin out hedgerows to agreed rotational plan • Lay hedgerows to agreed rotational plan • Bird box check (if you have any) - clean and note location and use • Fence repairs • Woodland thinning, glade and scallop creation • • 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> encroaching on to path • Lay hedgerow Woodland thinning, glade and scallop creation Ditch clearance 		
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove areas of scrub in grassland areas • Prune trees and look for storm damage • Clear vegetation from around knotweed sites to facilitate treatment later in the year • Clear vegetation around bridges and culverts • Remove saplings and vegetation encroaching on to path • Cut, flail or thin out hedgerows to agreed rotational plan • Lay hedgerows to agreed rotational plan • Bird box check (if you have any) - clean and note location and use • Fence repairs • Woodland thinning, glade and scallop creation • Tool audit and maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't paint unless warm and dry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove scrub • Prune trees • Clear vegetation from bridges and culverts • Remove saplings and vegetation encroaching on to path • Lay hedgerow Woodland thinning, glade and scallop creation Ditch clearance Tool audit and maintenance 	Flail hedgerow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in vegetation removal and hedge laying • Clean out and repair nest boxes. Erect new boxes • Assist with hand tool audit and maintenance

Notes

1. Create or revise this plan each year to create a rough guide to what you intend to do over the 12 months on the route.
2. Consider the issue/complaints that have been raised in the past and put in maintenance plans to avoid these
3. The plan should work towards a situation where by only planned maintenance is carried out.
4. Add significant items from 'all year round' entries to relevant months if useful.
5. Delete items if found not relevant.
6. Look at splitting the route into
7. Refer to the Greener Greenways Habitat Management Plan to help identifying specialist tasks e.g. creating scallops etc. and allocating them at the right time of year.
8. By referring to these plans periodically work programmes for maintenance teams, volunteers and contractors can be developed and ideally coordinated.
9. Adapt it to suit your needs and share it with the volunteer teams and others who may find it useful.

To be discussed:

- Can any areas be designated as grass land areas? Pontyrhyl, past the pub could be designed as a grass land, pic-nic area
- Create a sign map that signage can be checked against Sustrans to share output of signage and barrier audit
- Create drainage/culvert/bridges map and designate what could be maintained/inspected by volunteers
- Land boundary map and fence ownership
- Vegetation and hedgerow rotation plans (look at cutting hedge every three years)
- Grass cutting. Hopefully this can be done only twice per year but will depend on its growth, some areas will probably need one others three. If possible the grass should be removed and habitat piles created in set locations along the route. First and second cut should be about 1m wide where possible with the 3rd cut wider (distance to be discussed) to maintain the route through the winter and assist in cutting back vegetation so that it does not encroach onto the path.

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