



Conservation Action Plan - 2017

Springfield Park

Site Map

General annual tasks across the site

- ✓ Monitor and survey fauna, flora and fungi throughout the growing year
- ✓ Install, check, repair and clean bird and bat boxes annually
- ✓ Maintain overwintering habitat such as leaf fall, dead wood and ground cover plants for insects and as a food source for birds
- ✓ Clean and maintain interpretation and notice boards
- ✓ Clean and maintain dipping platform and pond gate



Note: Anti social behaviour is becoming an increasing problem on the site. To help to reduce/solve this problem the following actions could be considered:

- a) the height of the hedge is lowered to approx 1.5 metre:
- b) trees in the thicket Zone 7 are thinned to improve line of sight.
- c) The benches and seating are removed from the rear of the site

Zone 2 - Old Oak Wood

Zone 2

Tree Species:

Pedunculate Oak, Hornbeam
Copper plum, Sweet Gum tree (Liquidambar), Guelder rose

Keep shrub and ground layers clear of encroaching vegetation

- ✓ Reduce bramble growth
- ✓ Control spread of creeping thistle
- ✓ Fork out bind weed roots to control spread
- ✓ Remove goose grass before it flowers (May)
- ✓ Monitor health of trees
- ✓ Plant woodland bulbs (optional)

Clear overhanging branches from trees surrounding Sweet Gum tree (Liquidambar)



Woodland Habitats Management Timeline							
Activity	Control Bramble growth	Trim and prune shrubs	Remove encroaching vegetation	Plant woodland bulbs	Monitor and record flora and fauna	Prune trees	Monitor health of trees
January							
February							
March							
April							
May							
June							
July							
August							
September							
October							
November							
December							

Zone 3 – Rockery and Scrubland



Zone 3

Rockery to be maintained and planted by the Friends of Springfield Park Nature Area (FoSPNA)

- ✓ Weed, water and feed Rockery plants throughout the growing season
- ✓ Control the spread of bramble patch.
- ✓ Keep shrub and ground layers clear of encroaching vegetation
- ✓ Light vegetation management by gate- cut back in October
- ✓ Monitor fauna & flora

Rockery & Scrubland Habitats Management Timeline							
Activity	Control Bramble growth	Weed, feed and water Rockery	Remove encroaching vegetation	Rockery planting	Monitor and record flora and fauna	Trim vegetation near entrance	Monitor health of trees
January							
February							
March							
April							
May							
June							
July							
August							
September							
October							
November							
December							

Zone 4 – Community Garden Area



Zone 4

This is the Central Community Garden Area which includes seating, notice boards and activity zones. The area is ideal for creative planting, artwork and community activities for adults and children.

The management tasks are:

- ✓ Monitor and record fauna & flora (April – October)
- ✓ Manage bramble, outside of the bird nesting season (April-August)
- ✓ Maintain paths and dead hedges (keep them topped up with wood chippings and organic matter, January -December)
- ✓ Monitor health of trees

Zone 5 – Ponds and Wetlands



Zone 5

- ✓ Remove any rubbish/logs from the pond as soon it is noticed.
- ✓ Rake off floating autumn leaf fall, and remove some of those that settle on the bottom (Nov-Feb).
- ✓ Cut back overhang from trees
- ✓ Monitor and record aquatic life in both ponds
- ✓ Renew fence when funds are available

Zone 5

- ✓ Monitor the amount of plants covering the pond. Remove excessive growth in Aug/Sep
- ✓ Remove any rubbish/logs from the pond as soon it is noticed.
- ✓ Clear marginal plants spreading into the centre of the pond and leave the dead stems/ leaves of other marginal's over winter.
- ✓ Rake off floating autumn leaf fall, and remove some of those that settle on the bottom (Nov-Feb).
- ✓ Check and maintain dipping platform, wood preserve every 3 years.

Pond and Wetland Habitats Management Timeline

Activity	Remove fallen leaves from water	Cut back buddleia overhang	Maintain dipping platform and gate	Control dominant plant species	Monitor and record aquatic fauna and flora	Observe water levels and top up with rain water as necessary	Construct fence and maintain dead hedge
January							
February							
March							
April							
May							
June							
July							
August							
September		late					
October		early					
November							
December							

Zone 8 – Hedgerow Walk



Zone 8

- ✓ Remove bramble from hedge
- ✓ Monitor health of trees
- ✓ Under-plant hedge with woodland bulbs/perennials (optional)
- ✓ Remove goose grass, tree saplings from hedge borders to allow wildflowers to develop
- ✓ Monitor and record fauna & flora (April – October)

Zone 8

- ✓ Reduce height of hedge to 1.5mtr
- ✓ Trim top of hedge full length Dec/Feb and again in June-Aug along path.
- ✓ Trim 50% of the inward facing hedge sides on alternate years.
- ✓ Trim the outward facing sides once in Dec-Feb and again in June-July to keep the park footpath clear
- ✓ Use clippings to top up dead-hedges
- ✓ Keep top trimmed down throughout the growing season

Hedgerow Habitats Management Timeline

Activity	Trim 50% Hedge sides inward	Trim Hedge sides outward	Trim hedge tops	Plant woodland bulbs	Monitor and record flora and fauna	Remove bramble from the hedge and borders	Remove encroaching vegetation	Monitor and record new ground flora.
January		1 st cut						
February		1 st cut						
March								
April								
May								
June		2 nd cut						
July		2 nd cut						
August								
September								
October								
November								
December		1 st cut						

