



Grounds maintenance

Most frequently asked questions





What is grounds maintenance?

- It is the upkeep of the communal grounds on Whitefriars' estates. This includes grass, pathways and paved areas, garage sites, bin sheds and stores, shrubs, hedges and trees.
- Please note that not all the land, trees and shrubs in and around your estates belong to Whitefriars.

The questions you asked

grass

Why hasn't grass in our area been cut?

The grass might not be on land that Whitefriars owns.

If it is Whitefriars owned grass and it has not been cut we will contact our contractor, English Landscapes, to find out why. We will then make sure it is cut as soon as possible.

Whitefriars looks after over one million square meters of grass, and so occasionally some areas do get missed.

Why is the grass so long?

Our contractor tries to keep the grass to a height of two to three inches.

Sometimes weather conditions can speed up grass growth.

It is also difficult to cut grass in wet weather.

The weather may slow the contractor down and result in the grass growing longer before it is cut again.

Why have you stopped grass cutting?

Grass cutting will be halted during times of very wet weather, especially if the machinery is likely to cause damage to the ground or it is dangerous for the contractor to use it.

Grass cutting can also be stopped in very dry weather when the grass also stops growing.

Why are grass cuttings not taken away?

There are two reasons for this:

1. If grass cuttings are left on the ground they put goodness (nutrients) back into the ground.
2. To collect all the grass cuttings would more than double the cost of the contract.

The contractor will blow or sweep any cuttings which have gone on to footpaths, back on to the grassed area.

When is the low frequency grass cut?

Low frequency grass is only cut five or six times a year.

As an example, low frequency grass cutting would be carried out in demolition areas.



A vertical strip on the left side of the page features several bright yellow daisy flowers with dark centers, set against a dark background. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing their full, layered petals.

weed control

How often do you spray weeds on paths and hard surfaces?

General weed spraying is normally carried out from February to April.

If there is snow or heavy rain during those months, spraying may be carried out at other times.

Spot spraying will be carried out to problem areas as necessary.

Do Whitefriars contractors use pesticides?

Yes, to control pests and diseases as and when required.

What precautions should the contractor take when spraying?

The contractor is trained and has a weed spraying test certificate. The contractor should also be spraying responsibly and safely.

hedges

How often are hedges trimmed back?

This depends on how much the hedge has grown.

They are generally trimmed between July and November. Doing them at this time of the year avoids disturbing nesting birds.

They will also be cut back out of these times if they are causing an obstruction or are dangerous.

shrubs

How often are the shrubs pruned?

The number of times shrubs are pruned depends on how much they have grown.

Some are only trimmed once a year whilst others are cut back much more often.

They will also be pruned if they overrun paths or cause an obstruction.

Is it OK to cut back shrubs on Whitefriars' land so that I can carry out work to my own boundary?

Please call us first on 7655 5229 if you have a problem and we will arrange a visit.

We will inspect the shrub and let you know what can be done.

green waste

What is wrong with dumping garden waste?

Dumping garden waste on Whitefriars' land, a verge, or in a public open space is classed as fly-tipping.

Fly-tipping can lead to prosecution and a fine.

It also spoils the area and can attract others to dump waste there. It will also provide a haven for vermin.





trees

There are approximately **10,000 trees** on our estates and at some stage each of those trees will need some kind of treatment.

The type of treatment required could range from simple pruning or cutting back, to the felling of the tree.

A survey has been carried out to all our trees by a qualified tree specialist in order to find out what type of trees they are and the condition they are in.

Depending on the urgency of the treatment required, those trees needing the most urgent attention, for example dead trees or those in a dangerous condition, will be given priority.

The remainder has been entered in to a work program and will be treated according to the urgency of the work required.

This ensures that those trees needing the most urgent attention are treated first.

There is a dangerous tree in my area, what should I do?

Please contact us on 7655 5229 and we will carry out an inspection of the tree.

If it is found to be in a dangerous condition we will make it safe.

This does not always involve the tree being felled.

We may carry out other work to the tree to ensure its safety.

What if there is a fallen tree blocking the road?

If it is on Whitefriars' land please let us know.

If it is on a public highway please report it to Coventry City Council and they will arrange for it to be cleared.

What if trees are overhanging the footpath?

We will inspect the trees.

If it is found that the branches are too low we will cut them back to two meters above the ground.

What if tree branches are touching the roof of my property?

We will inspect the tree and check to see if any future programmed work is due to take place.

If there is a possibility that the roof could be damaged work may be rearranged.

What if branches from a Whitefriars' tree are overhanging into my garden?

If you wish you can cut the branches back and leave them on our land. Please let us know so we can inspect the tree and remove any debris.

What if trees are affecting my TV/ Satellite reception?

We will inspect the trees and let you know if any future work is programmed to take place. We do not carry out work solely to improve reception though.



contact us

If you would like any further information about grounds maintenance, please contact:
The Landscape Team ☎ 024 7655 5229

Need help in your own language?

French

Pour vous assister en votre propre langue

Portuguese

Assistencia na sura propria lingua

Somali

Luqadaadoo lugugu caawinaayo

Farsi

برای کمک به زبانتان

Arabic

نمساعدتکم فی لغتکم

Kurdish

بۆیارمه تێدان به زمانی خۆت

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a charitable industrial and provident society