

Wells Road

PLAN 1:250

Protecting Tree Roots

Tree roots keep a tree healthy and upright. Most roots are found in the top 600mm of soil. They often grow out further than the tree's height. The majority of these roots are very fine, even close to a tree few will be thicker than a pencil. Most street tree roots grow under the pavement and into front gardens, but they can also grow under the carriageway. If roots are damaged, for example by trenching, the tree may fall or lose its vigour and decline.

Protecting Trees

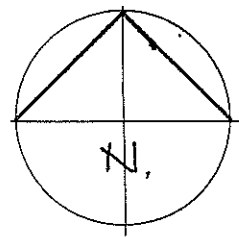
Always:

- Establish a protection zone around each tree. (To determine the Protection Zone measure the girth of the tree at chest height (approx. 1.3 metres above ground level), multiply this by 12 and draw a circle of this radius from the centre of the tree).
- Erect Heras fencing on scaffolding poles around the protection zone, as recommended in BS5837:2005.
- Seek advice from a supervisor or one of the council's tree officers when you are unsure of requirements.
- Report all tree damage to the site supervisor.
- Hand dig within the identified protection zone of any tree and carefully work around roots, retaining as many as possible.
- Consider using an airspade as this is a non-invasive method.
- Use sharp cutting/pruning tools when roots need to be cut and only cut those roots measuring less than 25mm in diameter. Make a clean cut and leave as small a wound as possible. Any work to roots with a greater diameter requires consent from the council.
- Reinstate around the exposed tree roots with sand and reinstate tree pits with good quality top soil.
- Keep compaction to a minimum in the immediate tree root area.

Actions to Avoid

- Never excavate with machinery within the root protection zone. Use trenchless techniques where possible. Otherwise dig only by hand.
- Never cut roots over 25mm in diameter, unless the Council's tree officer agrees beforehand.
- Never repeatedly move/use heavy mechanical plant close to trees except on hard standing.
- Never store spoil or building material, including chemicals and fuel, near to trees.
- Never light a fire near a tree.
- Never chain machinery to trees, or nail notices to their trunks or lean paving slabs against trees.

Important note: Frost can damage exposed roots. If trenches are to be left open overnight, cover the roots with dry sacking, and remember to remove the sacking before backfilling



MONTROSE, WELLS ROAD,
HENTON. TREE SURVEY

