



Greening Ashwell

IMPROVING SUSTAINABLE BIODIVERSITY IN ASHWELL, HERTFORDSHIRE

GREEN TEAM

Watering

As new enhancements become established (like Chalk Bank Close) they need to be managed and watering is a vital part of ensuring the success of a scheme or until the end of this season when it may be able to fend for its self with minimal attention. If it is late spring planting and the exceptionally dry /sunny season additional watering of the stock may be required and needs additional monitoring. Autumn planting is necessary for bare rooted stock becomes well established and should need little attention.

The need for watering will depend on the weather forecast and warm spells can occur at any time but watering is normally needed from May-September. Therefore, a Green Team Rota (GTR) needs to be formed by the Green Team Leader (GTL) so that each person knows when they need to be ready for watering, as well as arrangements for swapping duties due to other commitments.

Newly seeded wildflower areas require more watering than trees/hedging as the flora is sown just below the soil surface and if not initially watered (using a rose head with small spray), ideally daily in hot spells the establishment will be patchy or fail completely. The GTR may have to be adjusted for such schemes.

Although weeding is not necessarily part of this teams work if weeds are becoming a problem with the establishment (grass round tree bases, pernicious weeds invading wild flower areas) they should be removed at the same time as watering or if extensive the GTL should be informed for others to deal with.

If there are any issues or problems on watering please contact the GTL Clare Docking in the first instance claredocking@gmail.com, or Sherran Chalkley sherranmandrell@hotmail.com