



VALE PATH VOLUNTEERS (VPV)

PATH MAINTENANCE TEAM OF THE RAMBLERS VALE OF WHITE HORSE GROUP

Date assessed/re-assessed	20 August 2024
Work operation	SAWING / LOPPING OVERHEAD BRANCHES AND TREES
Assessor's name & designation	Patrick Rosum, VPV Coordinator

(1) Hazard	(2) Hazard effect	(3) Measures to control the risk from hazard effect
(a) Branch or tree could fall on saw user	Potentially serious impact injuries	VPV assesses whether and how the branch/tree can be safely removed by the VPV. If it is not safe to do so they do not do the job. Instead, they report the issue to OCC Countryside Access.
(b) Branch or tree could fall on saw user	Potentially serious impact injuries	If it is deemed that the VPV can safely remove the branch/tree the saw operator (and any assistants) wears a safety helmet and gloves. At least two other volunteers are in attendance.
Branch or tree could fall on other volunteers or member of public	Potentially serious impact injuries	Saw user establishes the drop zone for the branch/tree. Two volunteers are appointed as banksmen in order to keep all those not working on the branch/tree, and members of the public, well beyond the drop zone.
Heavy branch/tree to be lifted off a PRow	Strain injuries e.g. to back	A sufficient number of suitably fit volunteers lift the branch/tree, and each observes safe lifting technique. If necessary, the branch/tree is sawn into shorter pieces prior to moving it.