

Important Notice for Visitors

Help protect Cannock Chase

A plant disease has been identified on Cannock Chase. It is affecting some areas of ground covering shrubs.

An action programme has been co-ordinated by Staffordshire County Council's Environment and Countryside Team to deal with the infection - thought to be a form of an imported parasitic disease called Phytophthora.

The disease is completely harmless to humans and animals but can be spread to other plants on human clothing and animal hair.

Although the Chase has not been closed to public access the County Council are asking people to keep to the main tracks to stop any potential spread. Please do not go off the paths and keep your dog on a short lead at all times.

All the Visitor Centres are open as usual

Experts from Staffordshire County Council, Natural England, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, are working together, taking action now to stop any further spread of the problem.

Plants across the Chase are being tested and any infected material is being burned on site.

The programme of action is likely to continue for the next few months. Once the disease has been eradicated the Staffordshire County Council team will continue to monitor plant health.

Cannock Chase is an internationally important wildlife habitat and a great place for local people to enjoy. Please help us keep it that way.

For further information about Staffordshire County Council's work to protect and enhance Cannock Chase ring **CLARENCE** on **0800 232323**