

Title:	Maintaining and Improving Planted Environments
Level:	Level 1
Credit value:	2
GLH:	18
Unique Reference Number:	R/652/0074
Sector Subject Area:	14.1 Foundations for Learning and Life
Aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to maintain and improve planted environments using appropriate horticultural techniques. Learners will understand how routine maintenance contributes to plant health and environmental quality and will demonstrate improvement tasks with increasing independence. This unit supports progression into horticultural roles by developing competence in maintaining and enhancing planted spaces across a range of settings.
Assessment Type:	Assessment of this unit will be through an internally set and internally assessed portfolio of evidence.
Assessment Guidance:	<p>Assessment decisions for skills-based learning outcomes must be made during the learner's normal work activity.</p> <p>Skills-based assessment must include direct observation as the main source of evidence and must be carried out over an appropriate period of time.</p> <p>Evidence must confirm that the learner can explain the purpose of routine maintenance, demonstrate maintenance techniques, carry out simple environmental improvements, and apply safe working practices with limited supervision.</p> <p>Assessment must reflect realistic horticultural contexts.</p>

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Understand the purpose of routine maintenance in planted environments.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to explain why routine maintenance is necessary and how it contributes to plant health and appearance.

The learner must:

<p>1.1 Explain the purpose of routine maintenance.</p> <p>1.2 Describe how maintenance supports plant health.</p> <p>1.3 Identify tasks involved in maintaining planted environments.</p>
<p>2. Demonstrate maintenance techniques in planted environments.</p> <p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to carry out routine maintenance tasks effectively and safely.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <p>2.1 Demonstrate safe weeding techniques.</p> <p>2.2 Demonstrate appropriate watering or feeding methods.</p> <p>2.3 Demonstrate removal of damaged or dead plant material.</p>
<p>3. Demonstrate improvement of planted environments.</p> <p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to identify simple improvements and carry out enhancement tasks in planted areas.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <p>3.1 Identify opportunities for environmental improvements.</p> <p>3.2 Demonstrate implementing a simple improvement task.</p> <p>3.3 Explain how the improvement supports plant growth or appearance.</p>
<p>4. Demonstrate safe and responsible working during maintenance activities.</p> <p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to apply safe working methods while completing maintenance and improvement tasks.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <p>4.1 Demonstrate correct use of tools for maintenance tasks.</p> <p>4.2 Maintain a safe and organised working area.</p> <p>4.3 Follow safe working practices with limited supervision.</p>

Scope of Training

<p>The Scope of Training identifies areas that must be covered during the delivery of this unit. This is the minimum that is expected but tutors are expected to include other areas, knowledge of which will benefit their learners, based on location, types of work available and from the tutors own professional experience.</p>	
<p>Requirements</p>	
<p>Routine maintenance:</p>	<p>Definition: Regular horticultural tasks carried out to maintain plant health and appearance.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance tasks, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Weeding. ○ Watering. ○ Removing dead plant material. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light pruning (basic awareness). • Feeding plants (basic application). • Seasonal tasks.
<p>Environmental improvements:</p>	<p>Definition: Simple changes made to enhance plant health, appearance, or environmental quality.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding mulch. • Improving soil condition. • Replacing damaged plants. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving drainage (basic level). • Adjusting plant spacing. • Improving visual layout.
<p>Working area:</p>	<p>Definition: The designated space where maintenance and improvement tasks are carried out.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping pathways clear.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe storage of tools during work. • Removing waste materials. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared working areas. • Allocated task zones. • Awareness of others working nearby.
<p>Safe working practices:</p>	<p>Definition: The designated space used for carrying out propagation activities.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping trays organised. • Safe storage of tools. • Maintaining cleanliness to reduce contamination. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of benches or sheltered areas. • Labelling plants. • Shared working arrangements.