# **Monthly Maintenance Plan**

### January

- Minimal tasks.
- Inspect for winter wind damage.
- Remove debris and check soil drainage.
- Leave structural interest (Euphorbia, Sedum, Eryngium).

### February

- Cut back **Salvia Caradonna** and **Achillea** to base if not already done.
- Prune **Sarcococca ruscifolia** after flowering (lightly).
- Prepare for mulching next month.

### March

- Main spring tidy:
  - Cut back **Sedum**, **Eryngium**, **Geranium**, **Helenium**, **Erysimum**, and **Artemisia Powys Castle** to base (Artemisia can be trimmed more severely to shape).
  - Trim **Heuchera** of dead leaves.
  - Remove old foliage from **Carex** (if needed) by gently combing through.
- Mulch the whole planter.
- Feed lightly (balanced slow-release fertiliser).
- Weed thoroughly.

### April

- Continue weeding.
- Monitor for new growth; support tall plants if needed.
- Begin light deadheading on early bloomers.
- Check for pests (aphids on Euphorbia).

### May

• Begin regular deadheading of Erysimum, Geranium, Salvia, Helenium.

- Check plant spacing; thin or lift any over-aggressive spreaders (Geranium Dusky Crug).
- Water during dry spells.
- Stake Helenium and Euphorbia if floppy.

#### June

- Deadhead, weed, tidy.
- Trim **Convolvulus cneorum** after flowering.
- Watch for mildew or fungal leaf issues, especially on **Erysimum** and **Salvia**.
- Light trim of **Carex** if floppy.

### July

- Continue deadheading and watering.
- Cut back **Artemisia** if becoming leggy or sprawling.
- Monitor Euphorbia: avoid contact with sap when cutting back spent stems (wear gloves).
- Trim **Heuchera** if flower stems fade.

#### August

- Deadhead and tidy.
- Light shape **Erysimum** (don't cut into woody stems).
- Continue watering if needed.
- Divide Heuchera or Geranium if congested.

### September

- Begin autumn tidy:
  - Cut back **Helenium**, **Achillea**, and **Salvia** after flowering.
  - Leave seed heads of **Eryngium**, **Sedum**, and **Euphorbia** for winter interest.
- Plant or move divisions if needed (best time for most perennials).
- Weed thoroughly before winter.

### October

- Final trims:
  - Tidy Carex, Artemisia, and Geranium if leggy.

- Inspect for signs of rot or drainage issues.
- Leave evergreen structure over winter.

### November

- Cut down **Salvia** (if blackened by frost) and faded **Helenium** stems.
- Lightly tidy but leave seed heads for wildlife (especially Sedum, Eryngium, Euphorbia).
- Final leaf clearing.

#### December

- Rest period.
- Check for damage from wind or frost.
- Mulch or top-dress exposed soil if needed.

# Achillea 'Terracotta'

Warm-toned clusters of peach-orange flowers fading to straw yellow.



### **Carex oshimensis 'Everoro'**

Arching green and gold foliage. Evergreen ornamental grass.



# Helenium 'Moerheim Beauty'

Deep orange-red daisy flowers with brown centers. Blooms in summerautumn.



# Salvia 'Caradonna'

Deep violet-blue flowers with dark stems. Long bloom time.



# Erysimum 'Bowles's Mauve'

Long-flowering perennial with mauve flowers; attracts pollinators.



### Artemisia 'Powis Castle'

Silvery, aromatic foliage. Mound-forming. Excellent foliage contrast.



# Sarcococca ruscifolia

Glossy evergreen shrub with fragrant winter flowers and red berries.



# Ophiopogen

An evergreen perennial to 20cm, forming dense tufts of arching, narrowly strap-shaped, leathery black leaves



### Euphorbia characias 'Wulfenii'

Blue-green foliage and lime-green flower bracts in spring.



# Sedum 'Autumn Joy'

Fleshy leaves and flat pink flower heads that age to rust red.



# Geranium 'Dusky Crûg'

Bronze foliage and soft pink flowers. Compact and shade-tolerant.



# Eryngium planum 'Blue Cap'

Steel-blue flowers with spiny bracts. Architectural and drought-tolerant.



### **Convolvulus cneorum**

Silvery foliage and white trumpet flowers. Drought-tolerant.



### Heuchera 'Ginger Ale'

Golden amber foliage with small pink flowers. Shade-tolerant.



Return to <u>https://roundhill.org.uk/main?</u> <u>sec=planning&p=Round\_Hill\_Community\_Pocket\_Park</u>

Page 10 of 10