

Railway stations and yards: Getting to the root of the problem!



Railcare: a proven and effective solution for long term vegetation control

The railways have long been highly regarded for their management of the environment. But at stations, yards and other environments all over the UK, that means there is a constant need for vegetation clearance and removal.

Normally carried out manually, this approach is very labour-intensive, time-consuming, and much more significantly it all too often fails to get to the root of the problem - literally. So the vegetation problem's soon back...

Clearing and removing vegetation the Railcare way provides a really effective long term solution. Doing it our way also makes it much easier to keep those cleared areas under control and vegetation-free using your own manual resources.

Mechanized removal of undesirable vegetation

Railcare's approach to vegetation clearance around platforms and tracks gives you a much better result both short and long term compared to traditional manual clearance and removal. Our solution is based on two main methods:

Zone 1: Clearing along platform and track

Where the workspace is limited, a train set comprising the world's most powerful vacuum suction machine, the RailVac, is deployed to pull up all the vegetation right down to the very roots. Because it is vacuum suction, complete vegetation removal is achieved without any risk to existing cables and infrastructure. It is also much quicker and safer than any other method.

Simultaneously, all the debris including gravel and other waste is also removed. All the removed gravel, vegetation and debris are stored in the RailVac's storage container for onward disposal, and is then replaced with new ballast from the wagon following behind in the train set.

Zone 2: Clearing the cess and beyond

In this case we deploy a harvester attachment with a wood chipper/shredder. For those places which are the hardest to reach our mechanized resource can be successfully combined with your manual labour. Besides the vegetation itself, all trackside debris and rubbish is also removed.

Removal of the entire roots is ESSENTIAL!

With the removal of the entire root system of all the vegetation, the problems of vegetation re-growth are massively reduced. Without complete root removal, clearing vegetation manually by cutting and pruning simply stimulates even more growth, especially below ground.

And when the vegetation is removed properly from the station or yard, you also avoid grass, leaves and branches getting onto the tracks that in turn cause braking problems and slipping. As and when it is needed, the cleared areas can then be 'spray-sowed' with a specialist low growing grass seed designed to prevent other vegetation from flourishing.





Railcare brings many positive effects and benefits

There are many positive effects and benefits when using the Railcare method to vegetation clearance and removal:

- **Enhanced visibility**
Visibility – and therefore safety and security - is enhanced when bushes and trees are removed and signals and other objects are more visible.
- **Clean and safe working environments**
Your working environment is improved for all those who use it - the engine drivers and everybody else that work alongside the tracks.
- **Less delays**
Expensive delays caused by vegetation and material lying on, or infiltrating the tracks, can be prevented, so removing yet another cause of negative PR for the main users of the rail networks – your passengers.
- **Nice and clean for the passengers**
When your entire track environment is cleared properly, it is immediately seen to be managed professionally, a fact that is appreciated by passengers using your rail networks and stations.



Innovation based on known technology

The Railcare vegetation clearance and removal method is based on ultra-high powered vacuum technology, our Group's trademark for 20 years. All the machinery deployed is proven effective and handled by our own very experienced operators.

Capacity: one station a week

A station can be cleared up in around one week, depending on size and scope, compared to around a month using the conventional manual techniques which result at best in a relatively temporary solution to your problem.

Before



After



In around one week Railcare can turn a station from an environment under attack from undesirable vegetation and other waste, into one that is obviously well managed, safe to work in and free of problematic and unnecessary vegetation, one that staff and passengers can take pride in using – and one which makes your company look good.



Railcare Group AB, Näsuddsvägen 10, Box 34, SE-932 21 Skelleftehamn, SWEDEN
Phone 0910-43 88 00, Fax 0910-333 75
info@railcare.se, www.railcare.se