

Conservation Volunteering

Throughout the year, the Wildlife Trust runs volunteer work groups on most Wednesdays and Thursdays. Wildlife Trust staff or Volunteer Officers lead these tasks, and although the work is of a physical nature it can be tailored to suit volunteers of all ages and abilities.

Most sites are away from towns, so bring a packed lunch and something to drink. You will also need to bring stout shoes, boots or wellies and should wear old clothes that may get dirty and worn. The Trust supplies all tools, training and supervision – all we ask of volunteers is enthusiasm, and an interest in your local countryside.

New volunteers are asked to contact the trust to arrange an informal chat with one of our Reserves Officers prior to starting.

Transport arrangements

Come and meet us at **Lings Local Nature Reserve** to be ready to leave at 9.30am; the Trust office is sign-posted from Lings Way. We normally get back to Lings at around 4.30pm.

Alternatively you can meet us on site, but please telephone beforehand to confirm that you are coming and that the task is still going ahead at that location.

PROTECTING

THE COUNTRYSIDE

The Wildlife Trust for Northamptonshire is part of the Wildlife Trusts partnership, and is the only voluntary organisation in Northamptonshire wholly concerned with all aspects of the protection of wildlife in town and countryside. The Trust manages over 45 reserves in Northamptonshire, all of which need work to maintain and increase their value as important sites for wildlife and people.

We need volunteers to help with this management of our reserves. In return for your help, we will teach you traditional countryside management skills, such as hedgelaying and coppicing. This gives you the opportunity to visit some of the best sites for wildlife in the county, while you are helping to improve your local environment. The Trust also runs Biodiversity training workshops, which can be free for long-term, regular volunteers.

For more information about the work that we carry out, or about the Trust, please contact us by calling (01604) 405285 or by writing to:

Lings House,
Billing Lings,
Northampton,
NN3 8BE.

Practical Conservation Days



*Enjoy a day out
volunteering with the
Wildlife Trust in
Northamptonshire*

*January to March
2012*

January

Wednesday 4th, High Wood , near Preston Capes

Start the year with a bit of scrub clearance on this site's grassland near Daventry.

Thursday 5th, Pitsford Reservoir

The first visit of the year to this reserve and a chance to see large numbers of overwintering wildfowl.

Wednesday 11th, Woodford Halse

Scrub clearance and fencing repairs on this former railway cutting near Daventry.

Thursday 12th, Woodford Halse

Continuing yesterday's task.

Wednesday 18th, Southwick Wood, Oundle

Join us to remove cherry plantation to help restore some of Northamptonshire's ancient forest.

Thursday 19th, Southwick Wood, Oundle

Continuing the previous day's work.

Wednesday 25th, Old Sulehay–Stonepit and Ring Haw Wood

Traditional woodland management in the form of coppicing, tree felling and scrub clearance.

Thursday 26th, Old Sulehay–Stonepit and Ring Haw Wood

Continuing the previous day's work.

February

Wednesday 1st, King's Wood , Corby

Ride clearance in this Rockingham forest remnant.

Thursday 2nd, Pitsford Reservoir

Our monthly visit to do seasonal work on this wetland SSSI.

Wednesday 8th, Short Wood, Oundle

Join us ride-widening in this pretty Northamptonshire woodland.



Thursday 9th, The Plens, Desborough

Letting some light into this delightful woodland site, by coppicing and scrub clearance

Wednesday 15th, Twywell Hills and Dales

Working to clear scrub on the former ironstone gulleys, to help maintain the now flower- rich grassland.

Thursday 16th, Twywell Hills and Dales

Continuing with yesterday's scrub clearing work.

Wednesday 22nd, Ditchford Lakes and Meadows

A day hedgelaying at this wetland and grassland reserve.

Thursday 23rd, Ditchford Lakes and Meadows

Continuing hedgelaying from the previous day.

Wednesday 29th, Summer Leys, near Wollaston

Willow removal and a reserve tidy up at this SSSI wetland site.

March

Thursday 1st, Pitsford Reservoir

Our monthly visit to do seasonal work on this wetland SSSI.

Wednesday 7th, Summer Leys, near Wollaston

Help us restore our fencing at this important wetland reserve.

Thursday 8th, Summer Leys, near Wollaston

Continuing on from the previous day's work.

Wednesday 14th, Kingsthorpe, Northampton

Help with fencing tasks at this riverside grassland site.

Thursday 15th, Kingsthorpe, Northampton

Continuing on from the previous day's work

Wednesday 21st, Twywell, Kettering

Join us fencing at this grass and scrubland site.

Thursday 22nd, Twywell, Kettering

Continuing the previous day's work.

Wednesday 28th, Barford Wood and Meadows, near Kettering

Help repair the fencing and gates surrounding the site's meadows.

Thursday 29th, Barford Wood and Meadows, near Kettering

Continuing the previous day's work

Please ring the Trust on (01604) 405285 before coming out as task details may be subject to change.