make your garden count . . .

. . . for just £15 a year

Make your garden count by joining BTO Garden BirdWatch, the only year-round study of garden wildlife.

In return for your £15, you will receive:

- Four quarterly issues of the acclaimed magazine ‘Bird Table’.
- The opportunity to record the wildlife using your garden.
- Access to Garden BirdWatch online.


Call us now on 01842-750050, send a cheque* to GBW, BTO, FREEPOST IH2784, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2BR or join online at www.bto.org/gbw.

* Please make cheque payable to ‘British Trust for Ornithology’
Survey appeal as kingfishers hard hit by harsh winter

THE harsh winter may have significantly reduced numbers of kingfishers on the UK’s rivers and canals British Waterways said today, as it began its annual wildlife survey.

The organisation, which looks after 2,200 miles of the nation’s waterways, is calling on people to head to their local canals, rivers, reservoirs or docks to spot birds, animals and insects.

This year British Waterways is focusing its survey on kingfishers, amid fears the frozen waters and icy temperatures experienced for weeks on end this winter could have hit the bird hard.

Mark Robinson, British Waterways’ national ecology manager, said that although nature was “pretty resilient” to events such as the hard winter, many species would have suffered.

“The good news is that our waterways act as green corridors connecting towns, cities and farmland and providing vital shelter and a winter larder for wildlife struggling to survive.”

But he said some species would have particularly hard hit.

According to British Waterways, the harsh winter of 1962/1963 killed off between 80 and 90 per cent of kingfishers.

“Frozen water and plummeting temperatures may have significantly reduced kingfisher populations, with the possibility that many lost the battle against the cold. “It is therefore particularly important for us to monitor what species will need our support over the coming year and we’re asking the public to help us do that,” Dr Robinson said.

He added: “Now that the weather has warmed up, kingfishers are starting to nest and so now is a great time to see them.”

British Waterways is raising money to improve habitats for birds found on the waterways, including providing nesting tunnels for kingfishers and preserving their perches.

The measures also include providing reedbed habitat alongside canals and in reservoirs for rare bitterns and reed buntings and putting up nest boxes for grey wagtails nesting near lock gates and for barn owls.

Last year, the survey recorded more than 42,500 sightings including almost 300 different species of birds, amphibians, reptiles, insects and mammals.

Reporting findings is easy using a simple form on the www.water-scape.com/wildlifesurvey website. It also includes a map showing which species have already been spotted and where.
Join Us and help conserve Britain’s mammals.

The Mammal Society is the only organisation dedicated to the study and conservation of all mammals of the British Isles.

The Mammal Society:

- **Surveys** mammals and their habitats to identify the threats they face, monitor population changes and halt declines **before it’s too late**

- **Advocates** conservation plans based on **sound science**

- **Educates** people of all ages about British mammals, their ecology and conservation through our **training workshops** and at our **annual events**

- **Provides** current reliable information on mammals through our **publications**, available on our **website**

- **Supports** an extensive **local group network** so you can get involved in mammal conservation **on your doorstep**

To become a member and get involved in mammal conservation today, visit **www.mammal.org.uk** or fill out the form overleaf.
If this membership is for you:
Your Name: ____________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
Postcode: ____________________________
Telephone: ____________________________
To reduce the amount of paper we use, please provide a current email address below.
Email: ____________________________

If this membership is a gift for someone else:
Their Name: ____________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
Postcode: ____________________________
Telephone: ____________________________
To reduce the amount of paper we use, please provide a current email address below.
Email: ____________________________

I would like to contribute to the conservation of British mammals with a monthly/annual membership of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ADULT</th>
<th>STUDENT</th>
<th>CONCESSION</th>
<th>JOINT</th>
<th>OVERSEAS</th>
<th>AFFILIATED GROUP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(£25* (UK/RoI only)) Yearly</td>
<td>£25</td>
<td>£12.50</td>
<td>£12.50</td>
<td>£30</td>
<td>£30</td>
<td>£30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(£2.10 Monthly)</td>
<td>£2.10</td>
<td>£1</td>
<td>£1</td>
<td>£2.50</td>
<td>£2.50</td>
<td>£2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Suggested minimum. If you would like to support our work further by paying a higher subscription, we would be very grateful.

☐ Please add Mammal Review (our quarterly scientific journal) to my membership:
  Electronic (including all back issues) at £22+VAT
  Paper at £22
  Student £12.50

☐ I would like to make an additional one-off donation of £ _________ to further help The Mammal Society.

☐ Please Gift Aid my membership – increase the value of your subscription 28% at no extra cost to you.
  The Mammal Society can claim 28p for every pound you give, providing us with much needed funding.
  (The Income/Capital Gains tax you pay must at least equal to the amount we will reclaim on your donations in a year).

I would like to pay by:
☐ Standing Order
☐ Debit/ Credit Card
☐ Cheque (please make cheques payable to The Mammal Society)

Instructions to your bank or building society to pay by STANDING ORDER
Bank/ building society name: ____________________________ Account no: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________________________ Sort code: ____________________________
_______________________________________________________
Postcode: ____________________________
Name of account holder: ____________________________

Please pay the Standing Order to: The Mammal Society (Co-operative Bank; account: 65834075; sort code: 08-92-99).
Please pay £________ immediately, and thereafter annually / monthly until further notice (delete as appropriate).

Debit/Credit Card Details
Amount: £ _________
Card Type: Visa / Mastercard / Switch / Maestro
Card Number: ____________________________
Expiry Date: _____/_____/______ Start Date: _____/_____/______ Issue no: __________ 
Security code (last 3 digits on signature strip): __________
Name on card: ____________________________
Address card is registered to: ________________________________________________________ Postcode: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________ Print Name: ____________________________ Date: _____/_____/______

Please send to: Membership, The Mammal Society, 3 The Carronades, New Road, Southampton SO14 0AA

We will not pass your details on to other organisations, but we would like to send you information about our activities.
If you do not wish to receive this, please tick here. ☐
activity programme
inspiring people, improving places

BTCV Vale of York Group

October and November 2010
**Volunteer Calendar October 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Ray Wood</td>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Ray Wood</td>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Ray Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This 40-acre area of woodland was clear-felled in the 1940s but was first surveyed in the 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; century and much of the present ground flora is characteristic of secondary ancient woodland. Today the wood has a collection of 500 species of rhododendron and many other rare shrubs and trees set around a network of paths from an earlier woodland garden. Ray Wood is managed by Castle Howard Arboretum Trust, a joint charitable trust formed between Castle Howard and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Over the first two weeks of October we will be working to replace the fencing and repair gates around this important collection.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 12<sup>th</sup> Ray Wood     | 13<sup>th</sup> Ray Wood      | 14<sup>th</sup> Ray Wood     |
| Fencing is valuable in conservation work, helping to protect sensitive habitats from interference. This week Paul Appleton will be on site to provide training in fence building. There will be an opportunity to learn about different types of fencing, how to select the most appropriate type of barrier and choose the correct materials. We will be constructing a particular type of post and wire fence aimed at keeping rabbits out of the wood. Find out how to install strainer posts, struts and intermediates as well as learning how to tension wire using Monkey Strainers. **Booking is essential if you would like to take part in the training – please contact the office on 01904 644300 to reserve a place.** |

| 19<sup>th</sup> York Citizens Advice Bureau | 20<sup>th</sup> York Citizens Advice Bureau | 21<sup>st</sup> York Citizens Advice Bureau |
| The Citizens Advice Bureau in York occupies the site of a former school in the shadow of the city walls. There is a secluded, walled garden behind the office that used to be the school playground. Over the years this area has fallen into disuse and become overgrown with brambles, nettles and self-seeded sycamore. The project this week is to begin the clearance work that marks the first stage in the regeneration of the playground into a garden for users of the CAB and local wildlife. |

| 26<sup>th</sup> St Nicholas Fields LNR | 27<sup>th</sup> St Nicholas Fields LNR | 28<sup>th</sup> Hackfall Wood |
| This year’s annual V Community Challenge will take place at St Nicholas Fields Local Nature Reserve. Teams of young volunteers and members of the business community will be working on a number of projects to landscape the play area and improve the Melrosegate entrance. As part of the event we will be building some new steps and extending the woodchip footpaths. We are also helping to install some new benches made from timber felled on the reserve. A Grade 1 listed landscape and Site of Special Scientific Interest, Hackfall has been described as one of the most beautiful woodlands in England. We will be repairing steps and improving paths using materials from the wood. |

Congratulations to Anne Heathcote and Leroy Horrobin who successfully passed their NPTC Chainsaw assessment following four days of intensive training under the expert eye of Peter Robinson of Travelogger. Anne and Leroy battled rain and high winds to complete the training which was part of the Vale of York Environment Group’s **Environmental Training Programme – The Forgotten Years** project, funded by Awards for All. The aim of the project is to provide opportunities for those over the age of 25 to undertake training in a variety of practical conservation skills. For further details of the project and to register an interest in future training opportunities - including ID skills, first aid, MiDAS, risk assessment and practical conservation - please contact the BTCV office.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2\textsuperscript{nd} Rawcliffe Meadows</td>
<td>3\textsuperscript{rd} Burneston School</td>
<td>4\textsuperscript{th} Burneston School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The pond at Rawcliffe Meadows is an important stronghold for York’s tansy beetles. We will be clearing vegetation at the pond to help ensure a good supply of tansy for next year’s beetles.</td>
<td>Come along and help to create a new wildlife area for this lovely school in the Yorkshire Dales. On Wednesday we will be erecting a post and wire fence around the perimeter to ensure it is safe after the digger has been in to excavate the new pond. Thursday’s task will be to finish any fencing and build the dipping platform for the pond.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9\textsuperscript{th} Burneston School</td>
<td>10\textsuperscript{th} Hackfall Wood</td>
<td>11\textsuperscript{th} Burneston School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Now that we have the area secure, it’s time to install the footpath around the wildlife area. It will be a stone footpath to allow for wheelchair use. Come along and find out what a stob twister is used for!</td>
<td>Turner came to Hackfall to paint and Wordsworth is reputed to have loved the wood. Today we will be cutting back vegetation to help restore the views that might have inspired them.</td>
<td>It’s a long winding footpath so we will still be installing it today but with the help of a wacker plate, essential for a nice smooth surface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16\textsuperscript{th} Burneston School</td>
<td>17\textsuperscript{th} Burneston School</td>
<td>18\textsuperscript{th} Burneston School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The school is eagerly awaiting its wildlife area and at this point the area should really be taking shape. Over the next three days we will be doing a variety of tasks which include; post and rail fencing around the pond area, gate hanging, raised bed building, sleeper bench construction and building bird tables. There will be lots of fun things to try your hand at and have an opportunity to practice your small carpentry skills.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23\textsuperscript{rd} Hambleton Hough</td>
<td>24\textsuperscript{th} Hambleton Hough</td>
<td>25\textsuperscript{th} Hambleton Hough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hambleton Hough, formed from debris left behind when the glaciers retreated after the Ice Age, is one of the few hills in an otherwise flat landscape. Some of you will remember the beautiful woodland at this site from our visits in the Spring and it will be interesting to compare the flora and fauna this Autumn with that which we found earlier in the year. The work this week will be to continue management of the vegetation in the wood and, in particular, to clear new growth arising since our last visit.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30\textsuperscript{th} Barlby Woodland Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We will be working with Barlby and Osgodby Parish Council to carry out some improvements to the Woodland Walk. We will be clearing fallen timber and tidying paths through the woods. The Parish Council is hoping that the Woodland Walk will follow in the footsteps of another of its sites – the Old Railway Walk – and achieve the Green Pennant Award.</td>
<td>The Green Pennant Award is a national award scheme that recognises high quality green spaces in England and Wales that are managed by voluntary and community groups. The Award has an impressive and established background – it is part of the Green Flag Award scheme, the national standard for quality parks and green spaces. Winning a Green Pennant Award brings excellent publicity. Both the media and the public are becoming increasingly aware that a site holding a Pennant is a valued and high quality green space.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>If you are part of a community group that manages a local green space and would like to find out more about the award, please contact the BTCV office on 01904 644300.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Who are BTCV?**
We are a national conservation charity enabling individuals to become involved in improving their local environment on a practical level. The Vale of York Group offers one of the ways of experiencing practical conservation work. People of all ages and backgrounds volunteer. Whether you can spare three days a week or one day a year, please support BTCV in York.

**Do I need experience?**
No. Full instruction is given on every project by trained leaders. BTCV has 50 years of conservation experience behind it.

**What do I need?**
You will need a packed lunch, old work clothes, waterproofs and strong boots or wellies. Work or gardening gloves are recommended though some gloves, wellies and waterproofs are available at the office.

**What training can I get?**
A range of practical training such as weekend practical courses in hedgelaying to informal wildlife identification skills. We also run courses in first aid and machinery use – please call for details.

**What do I do next?**
We operate a booking system whereby volunteers wishing to ensure a place on the minibus to a particular task can put their name down for that day.
The Wildlife Trusts’ Guide to
Wildlife Gardening

Protecting Wildlife for the Future
Making room for wildlife

Across the UK, we look after more than two million acres of garden – an area five times the size of Greater London. With our countryside increasingly under threat, every garden, however big or small, is a potential nature reserve.

In the past 50 years, the countryside has changed dramatically with the destruction of much of our ancient woodlands, meadows and wetlands. We can’t replace these losses but we can help wildlife in our gardens and enjoy watching it at the same time.

Individual gardens may be small but together they form a patchwork, linking urban green spaces with nature reserves and the wider countryside. Making our 15 million gardens wildlife-friendly will help the plants and animals that make the UK special, and ensure that they are there for future generations to enjoy.

Wildlife gardening is about creating places for animals and plants to thrive alongside people. You can practise it on a large or small scale, with formal designs and tidy edges, or more informally.

Wildlife gardening brings life to your garden. Small ponds and meadows are easy to create and quickly become focal points. Being wildlife-friendly also means using fewer chemicals, saving you money and helping the environment.

To calculate the size of liner, use this formula:
Length of finished pool x twice depth x twice width of pond. For example, a pond 3m long by 1m deep and 1.5m wide needs 18m² of liner.

Fill with water, then introduce native plants a week later. Please don’t take frog-spawn from the wild.

Top tips for greening your garden

• Choose local seeds and plants that are suitable for your soil. Your local Wildlife Trust can advise you.
• Wild flowers belong in the wild – before buying, check plants, seeds and bulbs are labelled as being from cultivated stock.
• Ask your garden centre for peat-free products and use reclaimed stone or stone substitutes. Don’t buy water-worn limestone as it may have come from limestone pavement, a threatened natural habitat.
• Save water. Install water butts under downpipes outside your house.

Build a pond for wildlife

Create a pond in spring and enjoy wetland wildlife on your doorstep. Choose a sunny site away from over-hanging trees.

Dig your pond at least 77cm deep, with shallow edges for plants and for easy access for animals.

Remove any stones then line the hole with sand and old carpet, before laying a butyl rubber lining. Turn liner under at the edges and cover with turf.

Shallows/ledge plants
Water forget-me-not, water mint, yellow flag iris, water plantain, branched bur-reed, arrowhead.

Marsh/edge plants
Meadowsweet, purple loosestrife, lady’s smock, gipsywort, ragged-robin, marsh marigold, brooklime, rushes and sedge.

Common water plants suitable for small garden ponds

Deeper water
Hornwort, water-crowfoot, common water-starwort, spiky water-milfoil, curled pondweed, willow moss. Avoid Canadian pondweed, New Zealand stonecrop and azolla which soon take over.

Floating leaved plants
Fringed water-lily, water soldier, potamogeton.

Safety first: If small children use or visit your garden you should include a barrier over or around the water such as a fence or rigid mesh (allowing 75mm squares for small animals and plants).
Go organic
You can have an attractive and productive garden without using chemical fertilisers and pesticides. You can make and use your own compost, encourage insect and slug-eating creatures and adapt natural processes to maintain your soil.

Gardeners’ friends include frogs and toads, birds, and small mammals like bats and hedgehogs — all of which eat insects or slugs. Ladybirds, lacewings and hoverflies feast on aphids.

Butterfly gardens
Butterflies bring brightness to any garden. Attract them to yours with nectar-rich flowers like buddleia, scabious and hollyhock. Plant in a sheltered sunny spot and don’t forget to provide food plants for caterpillars too. (See the box below)

Climbing plants
Climbing plants on fences and walls make nesting and roosting sites for birds, and a haven for insects and small animals. Choose plants like clematis and honeysuckle which have nectar-rich flowers followed by fruit. Make sure you have some evergreens too — evergreens are especially valuable.

Peat-free gardening
Peat bogs are very special places for wildlife but, partly due to gardeners’ demand for peat, nearly all have been destroyed in the UK. Help save our remaining peatlands by using peat-free composts and mulches, such as chipped bark, leaf mould or coir. Contact The Wildlife Trusts for details of where to buy peat-free products.

Bird boxes
Birds and some mammals need boxes to nest in. House sparrows prefer around 32mm entrance holes, and tree cavity-nesters such as titmice and nuthatches need boxes with a 28mm entrance hole. Open-fronted boxes attract robins and flycatchers. Large open-fronted boxes high in trees may attract owls or kestrels. Do not put boxes in full sun and site them away from places that predators might attack from, such as overhanging branches.

Trees:
Alder, ash, aspen, beech, birch, bird cherry and wild cherry, crab apple, field maple, hazel, holly, ivy, oak, Scots pine, rowan, yew, whitebeam, willow, yew dim.

Shrubs:
Alder buckthorn, blackthorn, buckthorn, broom, dog-rose, dogwood, elder, hedge bamboo, hawthorn, spirea.

Feeding birds
Different birds eat different things, in different ways and places. Provide nuts, seeds, and fat in feeders, in trays and on the ground. Move feeding places from time to time to guard against predators, disease and unwelcome visitors such as rats.

Feeding birds
Different birds eat different things, in different ways and places. Provide nuts, seeds, and fat in feeders, in trays and on the ground. Move feeding places from time to time to guard against predators, disease and unwelcome visitors such as rats.

Food plants for caterpillars
Butterfly
Meadow brown, hedge brown
Wall brown, marbled white and large skipper
Large and small white
Green-veined white
Orange tip
Brimstone
Common blue
Painted lady

Plant
Grasses including meadow grass, false brimstone, cardoon and Yorkshire fog
Wild marjoram
Lady’s smock, hedge garlic and hedge mustard
Albar buckthorn and purging buckthorn
Bird’s foot trefoil
Thistles

Nectar-giving plants
Nectar plants
Primrose, subulata, sweet rocket, cardoon, coping
Lavender, catmint, thyme, helichrysum, red valerian, helichrysum, helichrysum (summer)
Michaelmas daisy, sweet scabious, hyssop, ice plant, lavender
Moths like night-scented stocks, honeysuckle, evening primrose and tobacco plants

Meadow magic
To bring辉煌色彩 into your garden, grassland flowers can be sown or planted to produce spring or summer displays. A meadow makes a wonderful haven for plants growing on your lawn. Your soil type and how and when you mow will dictate which species you should plant, but generally cowslip, ox-eye daisy, meadow cranesbill, yellow rattle, wild bird and meadow buttercup will do well.

Climbing plants
Climbing plants on fences and walls make nesting and roosting sites for birds, and a haven for insects and small animals. Choose plants like clematis and honeysuckle which have nectar-rich flowers followed by fruit. Make sure you have some evergreens too — evergreens are especially valuable.

Climbing plants
Climbing plants on fences and walls make nesting and roosting sites for birds, and a haven for insects and small animals. Choose plants like clematis and honeysuckle which have nectar-rich flowers followed by fruit. Make sure you have some evergreens too — evergreens are especially valuable.

Hedges
Hedges provide living space and food for all sorts of wildlife, as well as protecting against harsh winds. Good native choices include hawthorn, holly, hazel, hawthorn, wild rose, holly and (with luck) beech, laurel, coniferous, and pyracantha produce lots of berries for the birds.

Hedges
Hedges provide living space and food for all sorts of wildlife, as well as protecting against harsh winds. Good native choices include hawthorn, holly, hazel, hawthorn, wild rose, holly and (with luck) beech, laurel, coniferous, and pyracantha produce lots of berries for the birds.

Pasture-grown plants
Pasture-grown plants are specially bred for wildlife but, partly due to gardeners’ demand for grass seeds, nearly all have been destroyed in the UK. Help save our remaining pastures by using native grasses and grass mixtures, such as blood-clover, bracken and sedge. Contact The Wildlife Trusts for details of where to buy pasture-grown seeds, fat and kitchen scraps in feeders, in trays and on the ground. Move feeding places from time to time to guard against predators, disease and unwelcome visitors such as rats.

Grasses and cereals
Many plants grow on walls, including ivy-leaved toadflax, various ferns, red valerian and, of course, wallflower. Spiders and solitary bees like nooks and crannies, and rockeries will shelter many small creatures. Hollow stems left over the winter provide homes for insect larvae and pupae.

Grasses and cereals
Many plants grow on walls, including ivy-leaved toadflax, various ferns, red valerian and, of course, wallflower. Spiders and solitary bees like nooks and crannies, and rockeries will shelter many small creatures. Hollow stems left over the winter provide homes for insect larvae and pupae.

Cracks and crevices
Cracks and crevices provide living space and food for all sorts of wildlife, as well as protecting against harsh winds. Good native choices include hawthorn, holly, hazel, hawthorn, wild rose, holly and (with luck) beech, laurel, coniferous, and pyracantha produce lots of berries for the birds.

Cracks and crevices
Cracks and crevices provide living space and food for all sorts of wildlife, as well as protecting against harsh winds. Good native choices include hawthorn, holly, hazel, hawthorn, wild rose, holly and (with luck) beech, laurel, coniferous, and pyracantha produce lots of berries for the birds.

Pile of logs
A pile of logs in a shady corner will feed beetles and other small creatures. A pile of logs in a shady corner will feed beetles and other small creatures. A pile of logs in a shady corner will feed beetles and other small creatures.

Pile of logs
A pile of logs in a shady corner will feed beetles and other small creatures. A pile of logs in a shady corner will feed beetles and other small creatures. A pile of logs in a shady corner will feed beetles and other small creatures.

Feeding birds
Different birds eat different things, in different ways and places. Provide nuts, seeds, and fat in feeders, in trays and on the ground. Move feeding places from time to time to guard against predators, disease and unwelcome visitors such as rats.

Feeding birds
Different birds eat different things, in different ways and places. Provide nuts, seeds, and fat in feeders, in trays and on the ground. Move feeding places from time to time to guard against predators, disease and unwelcome visitors such as rats.

Meadow magic
To bring辉煌色彩 into your garden, grassland flowers can be sown or planted to produce spring or summer displays. A meadow makes a wonderful haven for plants growing on your lawn. Your soil type and how and when you mow will dictate which species you should plant, but generally cowslip, ox-eye daisy, meadow cranesbill, yellow rattle, wild bird and meadow buttercup will do well.

Meadow magic
To bring辉煌色彩 into your garden, grassland flowers can be sown or planted to produce spring or summer displays. A meadow makes a wonderful haven for plants growing on your lawn. Your soil type and how and when you mow will dictate which species you should plant, but generally cowslip, ox-eye daisy, meadow cranesbill, yellow rattle, wild bird and meadow buttercup will do well.

Climbing plants
Climbing plants on fences and walls make nesting and roosting sites for birds, and a haven for insects and small animals. Choose plants like clematis and honeysuckle which have nectar-rich flowers followed by fruit. Make sure you have some evergreens too — evergreens are especially valuable.

Climbing plants
Climbing plants on fences and walls make nesting and roosting sites for birds, and a haven for insects and small animals. Choose plants like clematis and honeysuckle which have nectar-rich flowers followed by fruit. Make sure you have some evergreens too — evergreens are especially valuable.
Handy hints for the wildlife gardener

• Avoid using slug pellets. They don’t just poison slugs, they also affect the birds, frogs and hedgehogs that eat the slugs. Control slugs with a barrier of grit or sand around plants, or use pitfall traps—a cup or jar with a little beer in the bottom, sunk into the ground, is ideal.

• Newly planted trees can be watered more easily via a drainpipe sunk into the ground alongside their roots.

• Epsom salts sprinkled around plants will prevent rabbit damage.

• Dilute household detergent is effective against greenfly and blackfly, and is thought not to harm other insects.

• You can treat seed-eating birds to a free meal by planting globe thistles and teasels.

• Enjoy your garden—wildlife-friendly gardening is about making your back yard into a haven for people and wildlife.

Help and advice

This leaflet is intended as a simple guide to get you started on wildlife gardening. Once you have begun, you might get hooked, so below are some suggested sources of additional information, supplies and further reading.

Wild About Gardens is a joint project between The Wildlife Trusts and the Royal Horticultural Society.

To find out more and share your wildlife gardening tips, visit www.wildaboutgardens.org

Organic gardening: advice, gardens to visit, fact sheets, seeds and product catalogues available from:

Henry Doubleday Research Association (HDRA)
Ryton Organic Gardens
Coventry
CV8 3LG
Tel: 02476 303517

Where to buy peat-free products leaflet and advice on peat alternatives—download from www.wildlifetrusts.org or free with an A5 SAE:

The Wildlife Trusts
The Klin, Waterside
Mather Road
Newark
NG24 1WT

Further reading

Wildlife Gardening by Fran Hill, from Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Tel: 01773 881188 – £7.95 inc p+p £4.50 if ordering 10 or more copies (cheques made payable to Derbyshire Wildlife Resources).

Attracting Wildlife to Your Garden by John Burton/David Tipling, New Holland, price £16.99

Join The Wildlife Trusts

The Wildlife Trusts is the UK’s leading organisation working on all aspects of nature conservation. Managing more than 2,500 nature reserves, we campaign tirelessly on behalf of wildlife and run thousands of projects and events, nationally and locally. The Trusts’ work is dependent on support from people like you.

Membership of The Wildlife Trusts gives you:

• A full colour magazine, Natural World, three times a year.

• A newsletter from your local Wildlife Trust, keeping you up to date with local wildlife news and events.

• The opportunity to get involved in many activities and events, and access to spectacular nature reserves around the UK.

• The knowledge that your support is crucial in helping to keep the UK’s wildlife safe for the future.

To find out more about joining The Wildlife Trusts, or if you’d like to make a donation to support our vital work, please visit our website www.wildlifetrusts.org or write to:

The Wildlife Trusts
DEPT.MSFR (GL)
FREEPOST MID20441
Newark
NG24 4BR

Organic gardening: advice, gardens to visit, fact sheets, seeds and product catalogues available from:

Henry Doubleday Research Association (HDRA)
Ryton Organic Gardens
Coventry
CV8 3LG
Tel: 02476 303517

Where to buy peat-free products leaflet and advice on peat alternatives—download from www.wildlifetrusts.org or free with an A5 SAE:

The Wildlife Trusts
The Klin, Waterside
Mather Road
Newark
NG24 1WT

Further reading

Wildlife Gardening by Fran Hill, from Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Tel: 01773 881188 – £7.95 inc p+p £4.50 if ordering 10 or more copies (cheques made payable to Derbyshire Wildlife Resources).

Attracting Wildlife to Your Garden by John Burton/David Tipling, New Holland, price £16.99

Join The Wildlife Trusts

The Wildlife Trusts is the UK’s leading organisation working on all aspects of nature conservation. Managing more than 2,500 nature reserves, we campaign tirelessly on behalf of wildlife and run thousands of projects and events, nationally and locally. The Trusts’ work is dependent on support from people like you.

Membership of The Wildlife Trusts gives you:

• A full colour magazine, Natural World, three times a year.

• A newsletter from your local Wildlife Trust, keeping you up to date with local wildlife news and events.

• The opportunity to get involved in many activities and events, and access to spectacular nature reserves around the UK.

• The knowledge that your support is crucial in helping to keep the UK’s wildlife safe for the future.

To find out more about joining The Wildlife Trusts, or if you’d like to make a donation to support our vital work, please visit our website www.wildlifetrusts.org or write to:

The Wildlife Trusts
DEPT.MSFR (GL)
FREEPOST MID20441
Newark
NG24 4BR

Telephone: 0870 036 7711
© The Wildlife Trusts 2005 Reg charity no 207238

Protecting Wildlife for the Future

Designed by FDA, Huddersfield
Illustrations by Anna Sutton Text by Isobel Bretherton
Photographs by The Garden Picture Library, Laurie Campbell and Woodfall Wild Images