

Easy Wins for Wildlife

Green your garden

UK gardens occupy an estimated area of 52,000km²/square km and could be a rich resource for [restoring] wildlife and diversity. Top picks for a green garden:

Think differently about beauty

We've got used to thinking that gardens mean neatness and order. Gardening for nature won't be neat - but you will grow surprise, wonder and beauty.

Leave part of your garden to go wild

Weed or wildflower? Native plants provide the best food sources for our bees, bugs and butterflies.

Pull up the paving

Paving, decking and artificial grass create wildlife deserts. They also increase the risk of flash flooding.

Make a woodpile in a shady corner

Hedgehogs hibernate in woodpiles, beetles and bugs love them!

Ditch the chemicals

Nesting birds depend on slugs, snails, greenfly and caterpillars to feed their young. Pesticides and herbicides including Roundup have been shown to harm bees, insects and aquatic life. Source: <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news-archive/2020/new-research-highlights-impacts-of-weedkiller-on-wildlife>

Rain and cats and dogs

Avoid using contact parasite treatments which contain Imidacloprid and Fipronil, which have been shown to leach from cats and dogs into water systems where they are highly toxic to aquatic life. One monthly flea treatment for a large dog contains enough Imidacloprid to kill 25 million bees. Source: UCL Briefing Paper <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/grantham/publications/are-urban-areas-hotspots-for-pollution-from-pet-parasiticides.php>

'How to' guides

RSPB's 10 easy ways to help nature on your doorstep:
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/nature-on-your-doorstep/10-easy-ways-to-help-nature-on-your-doorstep/>

The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust has great practical resources from how to build bee hotels to gardening without plastic:

<https://www.ywt.org.uk/actions>

Love your landscape

Walkers and their dogs...

Can help protect ground-nesting birds. Over half of England's most threatened species including Curlews, Skylarks, and Lapwings, nest on or near to the ground. By sticking to paths, watching your step and keeping dogs on a short lead, you can give rare ground nesting birds the best chance of survival.

Get hands on

Join ACE Biodiversity group members for tree planting and habitat restoration at Kelcow Woods and Keasden Common: contact Biodiversity Lead Andrew Pease. ACE volunteers also work on projects with the River Ribble Trust <https://ribbletrust.org.uk/volunteer/>, YDMT <https://www.ydmt.org/what-we-do/landscape-and-wildlife/tree-planting> and Wild Ingleborough <https://www.wildingleborough.com/get-involved>.

Burning App

You can help the RSPB monitor moorland burning and identify potentially illegal burns by reporting fires on the Burning App here: <https://upland-burning-rspb.hub.arcgis.com/pages/report-a-burn>

Mapping Swifts

Help to protect red-listed Swifts by reporting sightings of 'screaming parties' and nesting sites on the SwiftMapper App here: <https://peoplesplanfornature.org/>

Add your voice

Join ACE

Join ACE to campaign for a green, sustainable future for the Settle area and *all* its residents - humans, animals and plants! <http://acesettleandarea.org/join-us/>

Save our Wild Isles

Save Our Wild Isles is a joint campaign by WWF-UK, the RSPB and the National Trust calling for an immediate halt to the destruction of UK nature and urgent action for its recovery. <https://www.saveourwildisles.org.uk/about>

Sign up to People's Plan for Nature

Add your name to the People's Plan for Nature. Created by the people, for the people, it calls for urgent, immediate action from everyone to protect and restore nature for future generations. <https://peoplesplanfornature.org/>