

*What happens if the weather is bad?*

Our tasks are rarely cancelled because of the weather, but during the summer months, due to mowing, we are more weather dependent than in the winter time. If the task is cancelled for any reason, we will let you know ASAP.

*I am under 18 years of age, is this a problem?*

I'm afraid we are unable to take children (under 18s) out on task. Additionally, vulnerable adults will require a responsible adult to accompany them on tasks.

*Can I bring my dog along?*

I am sorry but no dogs are allowed on site. As we are often far away from the cars, it is also not advisable to leave them in the car.

## A map of our reserves



## Mid-week and Sunday group information

# YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

This leaflet is aimed at answering some of the questions that you may have about carrying out practical conservation tasks, and about the mid-week and Sunday group

For any further information, please contact:  
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*What is the aim of the mid-week and Sunday group?*

The aim of both groups is to carry out practical conservation work on Leicestershire and Rutland's nature reserves in order to protect and enhance their condition for the benefit of a wide variety of flora and fauna.

*Do I have to stay out all day?*

You are welcome to come out for the whole day or just part of it. We will give you directions to where we are working and you can join us whenever you are able to.

*Do I have to come out every week?*

The Billhooks and Biscuits newsletter contains the work programme for two months. You are free to pick and choose which tasks you come out on and when - once a week, once a month - you decide. All you need to do is call me by 5pm the night before the task you have chosen so that I know how many tools to take out and that I should expect you at the reserve, and also to contact you if anything changes prior to the task going ahead.

*Am I fit enough to do the work?*

If the task involves heavy lifting or lots of digging, I will warn people in advance. For scrub control work, everyone works at their own pace. There is no pressure for anyone to overdo it!

*I have never done anything like this before*

Don't worry, no previous experience is necessary. I will explain fully the work that needs to be done and how to safely use the various tools required.

*What if I have an accident?*

Although unlikely, as we carry out and follow the appropriate risk assessments, the task leader is trained in first aid at work and a first aid kit is always present on site. In order for the first aider to carry out their role

effectively, it is vital that you write down on your registration form any medical conditions or allergies that you have and if you are taking any medication. What you tell us will remain confidential.

*I don't know what I need to bring*

You need to wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty, and bring a waterproof coat and ideally trousers. You need to wear boots with a good grip, preferably with steel toe caps, or wellies. I will forewarn you if I know the site is particularly muddy. You also need to bring a packed lunch.

*What does the Wildlife Trust provide?*

We provide training, supervision, tools, gloves and refreshments. We have a limited number of steel toe capped boots, wellies and waterproofs that may be borrowed; call me in advance to let me know what size you would need.

*I don't want to have to drive very far or I haven't got any transport.*

Because you can choose the task you work on, you can choose to come out only to the ones nearest to you.

*What if I need the toilet?*

Unfortunately, there are never any toilet facilities when we are out on site although there are usually lots of shrubs, trees or walls to hide behind, and as everyone is in the same boat, we all respect each others privacy.

*I don't know anyone*

Don't worry, we are a friendly bunch of people, of all ages and backgrounds. Newcomers are always made to feel welcome and you will soon get to know us.