

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 due to the weather we will call you ASAP to let you know.

I am under 16 years of age, is this a problem?

I'm afraid our insurance doesn't cover us for taking people out if they are under sixteen. However, children over 16 (and vulnerable individuals) will still 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 any questions that you may have about carrying out practical conservation tasks, and the mid-week and Sunday group

For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact: Stan Smith, Reserves Officer,
0116 2487360, stansmith@lrwt.org.uk

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 Biscuits and Billhooks newsletter contains the work programme for two months. You are free to pick and chose 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 need to wait for you at the reserve.

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

Well don't worry, no previous experience is necessary. I will explain fully the work that needs doing and how to use the various tools you might need to use.

What if I have an accident?

Although very unlikely (as we carry out and follow 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 next of kin form (given to you on site),

any medical conditions you have or 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 muddy). You also need to bring a packed lunch

What does the Wildlife Trust provide?

We provide training, tools, gloves and refreshments. We also have steel toe capped boots and wellies, and waterproofs that can be borrowed. Just call me in advance to let me know what size you 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. If you live in Leicester and can make your way to the office in Leicester, we can give you a lift. Just call me to discuss options.

What if I need the toilet?

Unfortunately, there are never any toilet facilities when we are out on site but 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 and you will soon get to know us. There are no cliques of people either so newcomers are always made to feel welcome.