

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



Leicestershire
& Rutland
Wildlife Trust

This information is aimed at answering any questions that you may have about carrying out practical conservation tasks on nature reserves.

For any further information, please do not hesitate to speak to the group leader



What is the aim of the volunteer group?

The aim of the volunteer group 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 for the whole session?

You are welcome to come out for the whole session or just part of it. If you don't want to do the whole session, it is best if you can be there for the beginning so that you hear all the safety and tools advice and know where you are working, and then finish earlier.

Do I have to come out every week?

You decide how often you come out. Just let the group leader know in advance so they know how many tools they need to bring with them and whether they need to wait for you by the cars.

Am I fit enough to do the work?

Everyone works at their own pace and there are often different tasks to be done so you can choose which one suits you. You can also change activity during the session. 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. The group leader 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 the group leader is trained in first aid 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 before you come out) any medical conditions you have or if you are taking any medication. What you tell us will remain confidential and will not necessarily prevent you from attending.

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. You also need to bring a packed lunch (if required) and a drink.

What does the Wildlife Trust provide?

We provide training, tools, hard hats (if needed) and gloves.



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, the volunteers are a friendly bunch of people, of all ages and backgrounds and you will soon get to know them. There are no cliques of people either so newcomers are always made to feel welcome.



What happens if the weather is bad?

The tasks are rarely cancelled because of the weather but if it is the group leader will call you, if you have told them you are coming that is!

I am under 18 years of age or a vulnerable adult, is this a problem?

Unfortunately the Trust's insurance doesn't cover people under the age of eighteen so you have to be aged 18 or over to attend. Vulnerable adults need to attend with their own adult support person.