



Your garden probably already supports a mixture of animals. You might see blue tits and sparrows, butterflies and beetles, and watch the cheeky antics of squirrels and foxes. This pack will help you to develop ways of attracting more local wildlife to your garden.

Wildlife gardeners try to manage their garden as a balanced habitat, where each animal and plant has a part to play.

About this pack

In this pack you will find help to start the following projects. Feel free to photocopy the sheets if you want to share them.

A butterfly garden

Improve your flower borders to make a perfect environment for butterflies.

Gardening for birds

How to improve your garden for blue tits, sparrows and other songbirds with trees and shrubs.

Feeding birds

Providing food for birds in your garden can help them through difficult times when natural food is scarce.

A mini-meadow

Grass gardening for grasshopper people to experience the chirp of the cricket and the flutter of the meadow brown butterfly.

Pond building

A centrepiece for the wildlife garden, and vital support for dragonflies and frogs.

Pond maintenance

How to keep your pond attractive and healthy.

Wildlife on walls

City gardening for bird lovers. Greening your walls for wildlife, and building your own bird boxes.

Problem wildlife

Maintaining a balance in your garden and dealing with slugs.

Monitoring your wildlife garden

Keep your own records, and help by adding to ours.

Suppliers and contacts

Where to go for supplies, help and advice.

Wildlife gardening in Islington

Some local information about wildlife in Islington and what can be done to help.

Wildlife gardens in London

To get more ideas, to see how a mini-meadow looks for real, or to talk to people who really manage a wildlife garden, try visiting one of the sites overleaf. Phone the number for access details, opening times, fees if applicable, volunteering, and occasional wildlife events.

If you would like a large print version of these information sheets, please call us on 020 7354 5162

Places to visit in Islington

For a small borough, Islington has a host of places and organisations of interest to the wildlife gardener. Some have demonstration gardens and provide advice on wildlife gardening and sustainable practices. Others are open spaces managed for wildlife, to inspire you.

Sites Managed for Nature Conservation

For more information about these sites contact the Nature Conservation Team on 020 7354 5162:

Islington Ecology Centre and Gillespie Park Local Nature Reserve

A Green flag award winning site with a demonstration wildlife garden as well as ponds, meadows, wetlands and woodlands. Advice on wildlife gardening and sustainable living available.

191 Drayton Park, N5 1PH

Barnsbury Wood Local Nature Reserve

A small demonstration wildlife garden at the entrance to the wood. Open Tuesdays 2-4pm and additionally Saturdays 2-4pm through the summer.

Crescent Street, London N1

Parkland Walk Local Nature Reserve

Once a railway route, now a local nature reserve and host to a range of birds, bats, fungi and insects. Woodland trails and acidic grassland, unique in the borough. From Finsbury Park to Highgate.

Regents Canal

A Site of Metropolitan Importance to Nature Conservation. The towpath verges and embankments are managed sympathetically for wildlife. Also Thornhill Bridge Community Gardens adjacent to Caledonian Road. York way to Muriel St, N1 and Colebrooke Row to Sturts Lock, N1

Community Gardens

Culpeper Community Garden

Largely maintained by volunteers; organic and wildlife-friendly gardens. An oasis in a busy urban area.

1 Cloudesley Road, N1

Tel 020 7833 3951

www.culpeper.org.uk

Sunnyside Community Gardens

A community garden that provides horticultural therapy to people with special needs and promotes sustainability.

Hazellville Road, N19

Tel 020 7272 3522

www.sunnysidegarden.org.uk

Freightliners Farm

Small city farm promoting community involvement and sustainable practices, events and workshops, small garden with weekly gardening club, fruit and vegetable market, and community composting

scheme. Sheringham Road, N7

Tel 020 7609 0467

www.freightlinersfarm.org.uk

For a list of community gardens in London contact:

The Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens on 020 7485 5001

www.farmgarden.org.uk

Wildlife Gardens in London

The Wildlife Garden at The Natural History Museum

Wonderful mosaic of country lanes, chalk downland, fenland, and other patches of British countryside only a blackbird's flutter from the busy high street. Tel 020 7942 5000 www.nhm.ac.uk/museum/garden/index.html Kensington

London Wildlife Trusts Centre for Wildlife Gardening

The first demonstration garden keeps its friendly good humour. Ponds, meadows, cornfield, and lots of ideas for small gardens in this oasis of calm. Tel 020 7252 9186 Peckham, Southwark

London Wetland Centre

Three sophisticated sustainable gardens bordering the wetland reserve designed by Arne Maynard, Isabelle von Groeninge, Cleeve West and Johnny Woodford. Tel 020 8409 4400 Barnes, Richmond Upon Thames

London Zoo – Wildlife Garden

Sunshine sustainable garden, a pond, small meadow and examples of succession of habitats. The animal displays would not be complete without a picture of wildlife on your doorstep. Tel 020 7722 3333, Camden

Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew

Possibly London's largest wildlife garden, the lawn mower is kept under a strict regime, allowing you to wander among tranquil meadows, marvel over bluebell woods, and view the biggest compost heap in the capital. Tel 020 8332 5000



Nature Conservation Team.
Islington Ecology Centre,
191 Drayton Park,
Gillespie Park local
Nature Reserve,
London N5 1PH

T 020 7354 5162

F 020 7288 1717

E ecologycentre@islington.gov.uk

W www.islington.gov.uk



London Wildlife Trust.
Skyline House,
200 Union Street,
London SE1 0LX

E enquiries@wildlondon.org.uk

T 020 7261 0447

F 020 7261 0538

W www.wildlondon.org.uk

Registered charity
no: 283895

Look for local gardens with a wildlife theme, to visit through the Yellow Book National Gardens scheme. Tel 01483 211535.

More parks are now making improvements and including wildlife areas. Phone your council ecology officer or head of parks to see if there are any projects nearer to you.