

Idle Valley Nature Reserve, North Road, Retford DN22 8SG

Call 01777 713945 to book

Health Walks

A brisk hour-long walk around the beautiful Idle Valley Reserve. A great way to keep fit in the fresh air. Meet at the Learning Centre. No need to book.

Second TUESDAY of the month from 11am - 12noon.

13th March 10th April Free

First SATURDAY of the month from 10.30 - 11.30am.

10th March 14th April Free

Birdwatching Walks

Join Lound Bird Club to see which birds you can spot. Meet at the Learning Centre.

Third SUNDAY of the month from 10:30 – 11:30am.

18th March 15th April Free

Tiny Tots

Parent and toddler sessions exploring the outdoors. Suitable for 2 to 4 year olds. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Wed 28th Mar Tracks and Trails 10am – 11:30 £4*

Wed 25th Apr Amphibians 10am – 11:30 £4*

Wildlife Watch Children's Activities

Sun 11th Mar Signs of Spring 1:30 – 3:30pm £3*

Join us for a joint event between Idle Valley and Clumber Park as we get out and about looking for signs of Spring and doing activities along the way. (8-13 years)

Tues 3rd Apr Easter Crafts 1:00 – 2:30pm £3*

Take inspiration from nature at the Idle Valley Nature Reserve and make some Easter cards and gifts. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Booking essential.

Thur 5th Apr Easter Trail 10:30 am onwards £3*

Can you find the hidden eggs? This self-led trail is a chance for the whole family to enjoy exploring the reserve at your own pace whilst hunting for the hidden Easter clues.

Friday 13th Apr Easter Trail 10:30 am onwards £3*

Can you find the hidden eggs? This self-led trail is a chance for the whole family to enjoy exploring the reserve at your own pace whilst hunting for the hidden Easter clues.

*These events have a suggested donation associated with them to cover event costs.

Adult Activities

Tues 6th Mar Willow Weaving Course 10am – 3:30pm £60

Three day course run by renowned willow artist and sculptor Carole Beavis for the Ecominds group. We will be creating a willow arbour/seating area for our garden, and Carole will be helping us make it beautiful and sculptural as well as practical. People attending the course will learn skills that they can use in their own garden or at work (ideal for teachers and people working with children). You will be able to take home as much willow as you can carry (within reason!). Lunch is not included, but refreshments will be available.

Wildlife Talks/Meetings – at Goodwin Hall

Thurs 1st Mar 300 million year of dragonflies From 7:30pm £2

Thurs 5th Apr Retford local group AGM From 7:30pm Free

Open to All

Wed 11th Apr Photography Workshop 1:00 – 3:00pm £3*

Aimed mainly at children, all our photography workshops can help anyone interested in photography to improve their skills, so adults are welcome too. This workshop will accommodate compact digital cameras as well as the larger SLRs.

Conservation Volunteer Days

Every THURSDAY and the 3rd SUNDAY of each month - Idle Valley
(Contact: James Simpson 01777 713944 if you are interested in helping out)

Every WEDNESDAY and the 1st and 2nd SUNDAY of each month – Northern Reserves. (Contact: Rob Atkinson 01777 713 943 if you are interested in helping out)
See Conservation Volunteer leaflet for details.

All events (except health walks) need to be booked. Call early to avoid disappointment on 01777 713 945 or call in at the centre.

Weekend Café Open 11:30 to 2pm Sat & Sun only
Vending machines available at all times

Reception Facilities Open 7 days a week 10am - 4pm FREE

Reserve Car Parking May to Sept 9am - 8pm FREE

Oct to April 9am - 5pm FREE