



Nottinghamshire
Wildlife Trust



WILDER *business* TOOLKIT



Creating a Wilder Nottinghamshire



nottinghamshirewildlife.org

GET *wild* AT WORK

Create a haven for wildlife and your community



Your business can help create a Wilder Nottinghamshire for people and wildlife to thrive together.

Being part of a Wilder Community taking action for nature is fantastic for your local wildlife. From providing food for the bees and homes for birds, to improving biodiversity or reducing flooding - your business's actions can make a real difference, no matter the size of the space available. It is also a fantastic way to connect with people locally and improve your colleagues' well-being by connecting them with nature.

**Sign your
business up
to the Wilder
Nottinghamshire
Network!**



FURTHER RESOURCES

If you'd like to learn more about ways you can take action for nature at your workplace please scan the QR code or [visit our website](#)



Continue reading for all the top tips you need to get you started at your workplace...



MAKE *space* FOR NATURE

Even if you're only making a small space more wildlife friendly, it can have a big impact. Wildlife thrives when lots of small spaces can be connected to form vital "green corridors".

Here are some top tips to create space for wildlife at your workplace:

Whatever action you pick, always be mindful of whether it is right for the space!



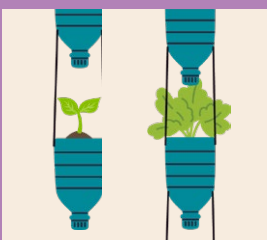
MAKE A HEDGE FOR WILDLIFE

Hedges provide important shelter and protection for wildlife, particularly nesting birds and hibernating insects. Hedgerows also provide wildlife friendly corridors.



PLANT A TREE

Planting trees is a great way to enhance your space – trees offer shade, a natural windbreak and a little more privacy. It is also a great way to attract wildlife, giving them space to feed, breed, shelter and hibernate.



GROW VERTICAL GARDENS

Gardening doesn't need to be restricted to the ground – bring your walls to life for wildlife! Many types of plants will thrive in a green wall, from herbs and fruit to grasses and ferns.



WILDFLOWER MINI-MEADOWS

Whether it's a flowerpot, flowerbed, or an entire meadow, planting wildflowers provides vital resources to support a wide range of insects that couldn't survive in urban areas otherwise.



MAKE A GRAVEL GARDEN

Surfaced spaces needn't exclude wildlife! Gravel can often be the most wildlife-friendly solution for a particular area and provide the perfect environment for drought-tolerant planting.



MAKE *space* FOR NATURE

Every action you take will make a positive difference for wildlife!



BUG HOTEL

Build your own bug mansion and attract a multitude of insect species. By providing the right habitats, we can greatly increase the number of 'beneficial' insects.



FEED BIRDS IN YOUR SPACE

Attracting birds to your space is easy! Supplement naturally available food with bird food and watch them flock in!



BUILD A BIRD BOX

Nestboxes can make a real difference to the success or failure of a breeding species in an area, especially when accompanied by the regular supply of suitable food and water.



PROVIDE WATER FOR WILDLIFE

All wildlife needs water to survive, insects, mammals and birds will drink and bathe in it. Butterflies will get valuable minerals and salts from slightly muddy water while amphibians such as frogs will use water as shelter and breeding grounds.



CREATE A HEDGEHOG HOLE

Help hedgehogs get around by making holes and access points in fences and barriers to link up the spaces in your neighbourhood.



MORE TIPS!

For further tips on how to help nature visit [nottinghamshirewildlife.org/actions](https://www.nottinghamshirewildlife.org/actions)

PLANT FOR

bees and butterflies



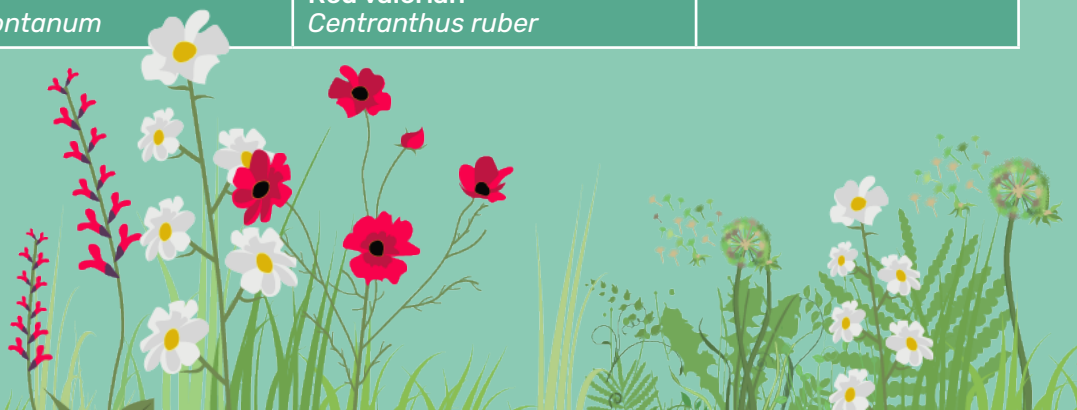
Beneficial insects are vital to the success of ecosystems. You can take inspiration from local initiatives such as Nottingham's Bee Highway and the Green Heart by making space for wildlife such as bees and butterflies.

The best plants for bees and pollinators

Insects feed on nectar, so need flowering plants for their survival. Butterflies, moths, bees and hoverflies all need sources of nectar and pollen to thrive.

NECTAR RICH PLANT SUGGESTIONS

EARLY SEASON	MID SEASON	LATE SEASON
Aubretia spp	Heather <i>Erica cinerea</i>	Coneflower <i>Echinacea spp.</i>
English bluebell <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Lady's bedstraw <i>Galium verum</i>	French marigold <i>Tagetes patula</i>
Currant <i>Ribes spp.</i>	Lavender <i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>	Golden rod <i>Solidago spp.</i>
Grape hyacinth <i>Muscari armeniacum</i>	Common mallow <i>Malva sylvestri</i>	Honeysuckle <i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>
Lungwort <i>Pulmonaria officinalis</i>	Purple toadflax <i>Linaria purpurea</i>	Ice plant <i>Sedum spectabile</i>
Primrose <i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Rock cress <i>Arabis spp.</i>	Ivy <i>Hedera helix</i>
Sweet violet <i>Viola odorata</i>	Sea holly <i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Meadow saffron <i>Colchicum autumnale</i>
Winter aconite <i>Eranthis hyemalis</i>	Verbena <i>Verbena bonariensis</i>	Michaelmas daisy <i>Aster pyrenaes</i>
Wood anemone <i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	Wallflower <i>Erysimum cheiri</i>	Common sunflower <i>Helianthus annuus</i>
Alyssum <i>Alyssum montanum</i>	Red valerian <i>Centranthus ruber</i>	



MAKE A *bee* hotel

Solitary bees are important pollinators and a human's friend. Help them by building a bee hotel for your workspace and watch them buzz happily about their business.

HOW TO MAKE A BEE HOTEL

STEP 1: Use untreated wood to make a rectangular frame that the stems will sit inside.

STEP 2: Using hollow stems of different diameters (2-10mm) such as bramble, reed or bamboo, snip to different lengths to fit your frame. Discard any bent or knobbly ones.

STEP 3: Carefully pack your frame with stems. The whole thing will lock solid once all stems are in place.

STEP 4: Add a backing board to the bee hotel and hang or stand it in your sunny green space.



GROW wildlife-friendly HERBS

Grow wildlife-friendly herbs: Planting herbs and allowing them to flower and seed will attract important pollinators, which will, in turn, attract birds and small mammals looking for a meal.



ROSEMARY
CARAWAY
HYSSOP
ENGLISH LAVENDER
COMMON SAGE WILD
THYME
FENNEL
CHIVES
COMMON MINT
WILD MARJORAM

Herb and nectar rich plants can be planted in borders, raised planters, containers, old pots, any space will work!



GO ORGANIC!

Go peat free to protect the planet or if you have space, you could even make your own compost!



WILDER wellbeing

Wilder Wellbeing guide

By creating space for nature at your workplace you will not only be helping wildlife, but you'll also be benefiting your colleagues and the local community!

Evidence shows (Nature for health and well-being) that a thriving, wildlife-rich environment benefits both our physical and mental health!

There are 5 ways to wellbeing:

Give your time and take part in a Wild Work Day on a nature reserve or volunteer within your local community.

Be active and visit your local nature reserve, map out local walks in wild places or host a 'net-walking' event outside surrounded by nature.

Take Notice and look out for what wildlife you have at your workplace, let us know what you've been lucky enough to see.

Connect employees with nature by adding some colourful nectar rich plants or creating an outdoor wild meeting area.

Learn with colleagues, bring together a green team or advocates to share information on ways anyone can take action and connect with nature.

Why not use the Wild Business Planner?

Spend every day
of June getting
wilder with
30 Days Wild!



Attracting
wildlife to your
workplace will
help improve their
environment –
and yours!

Employees
feel happier,
healthier
& more
positive



Nottinghamshire
Wildlife Trust

Wild**BUSINESS** PLANNER

What actions will you take for nature?



JANUARY Big Garden Birdwatch	FEBRUARY National Nest Box Week	MARCH World Wildlife Day
APRIL Earth Day	MAY Mental Health Awareness Week	JUNE 30 Days Wild & World Environment Day
JULY Big Butterfly Count	AUGUST National Allotments Week	SEPTEMBER World Rivers Day
OCTOBER World Mental Health Day	NOVEMBER National Philanthropy Day	DECEMBER 12-Days Wild

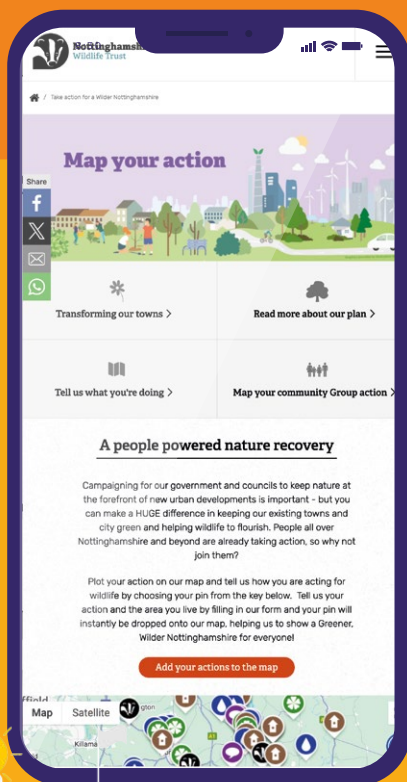


Wilder NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK

People, community groups and businesses all over Nottinghamshire and beyond are already taking action, so why not join them?

Sign your business up to the growing Wilder Nottinghamshire Network, share your actions and be inspired by others taking action for nature, inspire others with what you are doing and be part of a movement for nature across the county!

Be sure to plot your actions on our map



Wilder
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
AWARDS 2025

Keep an eye out for our Business Award celebrating ways businesses are taking action for nature across the county.



If you would like further information or bespoke advice for your space, please contact our team at info@nottswt.co.uk



BE A wilder business IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE!

Let us know what actions you're taking for nature.

If you're a local businesses who wants to find out more about ways you can invest in the future of Nottinghamshire's wild spaces and share our passion for inspiring local communities to enjoy the benefits nature can have on their health and wellbeing, whilst helping to take action to protect it, please get in touch with our partnerships team today - info@nottswt.co.uk

**Be inspired by businesses already helping to create a
Wilder Nottinghamshire**

WILD WORK DAY

Join us on one of our
Nature Reserves for
your next team Away
Day and experience
the benefits for
yourself!



**Be part of a people
powered nature
recovery!**

**Thank you for
taking action for
nature!**

To hear all our latest wildlife news, species and habitats we've been protecting and events to get involved with, you can sign up to our e-newsletter



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Wildlife Trust

Thank you to It's in Nottingham for supporting us in creating this toolkit.

We would also like to thank Derbyshire Wildlife Trust for providing a range of graphics for use in this guide.

IT'S IN NOTTINGHAM

nottinghamshirewildlife.org

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