

# Water Voles: Ecology, Legislation, and Survey Training Course



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**Course Leader:** Paul Gambling, Ecological Consultant

**Date and Time:** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2011, 10:00am to approximately 4:30pm

**Location:** Old Court House, Baron's Close, Fakenham, NR21 8BE (the home of the Norfolk Coast Partnership)

**Cost:** £60 + V.A.T; £30 + V.A.T for concessions

## Course Content:

In the morning there will be an introduction to water voles and their ecology, including lifecycle, habitats, food, predators, the problems they face, reasons for population decline, interaction with their latest predator the American Mink, and current legislation.

After lunch there will be a practical field session including an introduction to surveying techniques and recording forms, equipment, safe surveying, identifying water vole field signs, and identifying potential water vole habitat.

The course will be held at an intermediate level and is suitable for ecologists, planners, land managers/owners, and anyone with an interest in water voles.

## Equipment:

Morning refreshments will be provided but please bring a packed lunch.

For the practical session, please bring suitable outdoors clothing, including stout footwear or wellingtons, gloves (to protect against nettles and brambles), a walking stick or similar (for support and for parting vegetation), and a hand-lens (or watchmakers' or other magnifying glass) if you have one.

## Booking:

To book a place, contact Abi Hemmant at Norfolk Wildlife Services by emailing [abih@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:abih@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk), or by telephoning 01603 625540.

