

# Workshops for a *wilder* community



These sessions for 2024 have been specially designed to support individuals, communities and groups acting for nature in their local area. Workshops are subsidised by donations made to Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

**Booking essential** – through Eventbrite at [norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/whats-on](https://norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/whats-on)  
(please note a small booking fee applies to charged events).

## Group mechanics...

### How to grab a grant – Introduction to applying for small community grants

**Thursday 9 May**  
10.30am-12noon

Do you have a great idea for a wildlife project but haven't got the funds to move it forward?

Jane Warren, NWT Grants Officer, will guide you through some of the opportunities out there to help you raise funds for a community project.

NWT Cley Marshes  
Free. Booking essential

### Raising your project's profile in the media

**Wednesday 11 September**  
6-7pm

Learn more about how to work with local media to raise awareness of your wildlife project or group. During this webinar you will learn how to use the media to share your stories with key audiences and explore the what? when? who? and why? of pitching to media outlets.

Online – webinar  
Free. Booking essential



## Practical tool use...



### Refresher workshop – Scythe maintenance and use

**Monday 13 May**  
10am-1pm or 2-5pm

Do you have a scythe, but are not sure how to maintain it? This 3-hour workshop will show you how to sharpen the blade and how to peen it, as well as refreshing your memory on how to set it up and use it to give the most effective cut.

NWT Hickling Broad and Marshes  
£30 per person (inc.50% subsidy)  
Booking essential

### Introduction to practical scything

**Sunday 14 July**  
10am-4pm

Scythes are a fantastic tool for managing small meadows. This workshop will teach you how to set-up, use and maintain a scythe, as well as covering some of the basics of meadow management.

Gressenhall – Environment Hub  
£50 per person (inc.50% subsidy)  
Booking essential

### Introduction to hedgelaying

**Saturday 9 November**  
9.30am-3pm

Join us to learn the traditional art of hedgelaying. This whole day workshop will be an introduction to hedgelaying, giving you the opportunity to first prepare the hedge for laying, through to laying, staking and weaving the binders.

Heywood, near Diss  
£50 per person (inc.50% subsidy)  
Booking essential

## Species focus...

### Introduction to recording wildflowers on your patch

**Friday 10 May**  
10am-1pm

Plants are fascinating and when you take the time to really look at an area you will be amazed at how many different wildflowers can be found. This introductory session will show you how to start recording wildflowers, how to get to grips with plant families and how to identify at least 20 common wildflowers and grasses.

Norwich  
£7 per person. Booking essential



### Making room for swifts

**Wednesday 15 May**  
6-7pm

Would summer be the same without swift 'screaming parties' as they fly overhead? Surely this is something that would be truly missed if we lost these amazing birds that are now listed as a red data book species.

Through this online presentation, Caroline Spinks, Norwich Swift Network, will give us an insight into these birds and talk about how we can help to look after swifts in Norfolk.

Online – webinar  
Free. Booking essential



The  
**Wildlife**  
Trusts

[norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk](https://norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk)



### Introduction to wildlife recording: A focus on citizen science

**Thursday 13 June**  
2-3pm

How can you start recording wildlife in your area, what do you need, where do you send your records, and why is it important? In this session we will look at how to get started with wildlife recording, why recording wildlife is so important for the long-term monitoring of our environment, and how you can get involved in national and regional citizen science projects.

Online - webinar  
Free. Booking essential

### Making room for swifts in your neighbourhood

**Monday 22 July**  
7-8.30pm

Would summer be the same without swift 'screaming parties' as they fly overhead? Surely this is something that would be truly missed if we lost these amazing birds that are now listed as a red data book species.

On this interactive walk Caroline Spinks, Norwich Swift Network, will give us an insight into these birds and talk about how she is helping communities to look after swifts in Norfolk.

Winterton-on-Sea  
Free. Booking essential



### Bees for beginners

**Friday 2 August**  
11am-12.30pm

Learn the basics of bee ID and ecology, bumblebees vs. solitary bees, identifying the 'Big 7' and how you can help pollinators at home or on your local patch.

Norwich  
£2.50 per person. Booking essential



## Habitat focus...

### Managing, restoring and creating parish and community ponds

**Thursday 25 April**  
10am-1pm

Ponds are small habitats rich in wildlife, from plants to insects, birds to amphibians. Come along and find out how best to care for ponds in your local patch.

West Runton  
£7 per person. Booking essential

### Managing an orchard with wildlife in mind

**Thursday 23 May**  
10am-12noon

Orchards both large and small can be wonderful places for wildlife - from hedgehogs and small birds to bees and butterflies. This event will look at what wildlife lives in an orchard and how to encourage wildlife through careful mowing, pruning and tree care.

Gressenhall - Environment Hub  
£5 per person. Booking essential

### A step-by-step approach to creating a meadow in your local patch

**Friday 7 June**  
10am-1pm

This workshop will give an overview of how to create a wildflower meadow either from scratch or by managing an existing green space with wildflowers in mind. Learn how to improve your chances of success and how to look after your meadow.

Saxlingham Nethergate  
£7 per person. Booking essential

### Pond condition assessment and management planning

**Monday 10 June**  
1-4pm

How do you decide if a pond is in good ecological condition or if it needs restoration work to enhance its value for wildlife? If a site has several ponds how would you prioritise which ponds to restore and which to leave? In this workshop you will learn a simple framework for surveying pond condition and how to then prioritise between different ponds and pull together a pond management plan. This event will include an indoor session and then a visit to Brisley Green, County Wildlife Site, 5 minutes walk away from the venue, to survey a number of ponds and consider appropriate management.

Brisley Green  
£7 per person. Booking essential



### Managing land with nature in mind

**Tuesday 11 June**  
1.30-5pm

Do you own, or look after, an area of land managed primarily for the benefit of nature? This could be an area of between 1 and 10 hectares, and may consist of woodland, grassland, paddocks or wetland habitat. Do you own an area that you would like to enhance for nature?

When managing primarily for nature how do you know what habitats and species are present, and what the most suitable management might be? This workshop will begin with an indoor session and then a site visit to a nearby private nature reserve to discuss some practical issues and solutions.

We will cover:

- Assessing the current habitats and species present.
- Sources of information on managing different habitats.
- Creating a basic management plan.

Reepham  
£7 per person. Booking essential

### How to create a meadow

**Wednesday 26 June**  
10-11.30am

Discover how new wildflower meadows have been made using locally sourced seed. We will look at new meadows teeming with life, talk through the techniques needed and hope to inspire you to help wildlife by making meadows on your patch.

Wreningham  
Free. Booking essential





## Managing commons and greens for wildlife

**Thursday 4 July**

**1-4pm**

Commons and village greens can be important places for wildlife as well as people. At this workshop we will look at the laws governing these spaces, their history, what wildlife we can find on them in Norfolk and how best to care for them.

**Litcham Common**

**Free. Booking essential**

## How to write a simple management plan for your community space

**Thursday 12 September**

**10am-1pm**

Do you have a community space or small area of land you want to manage for wildlife? In this session we will go over how to get started, what to consider when writing a management plan, prioritising objectives and effectively monitoring the work planned to ensure the best outcomes for biodiversity and you. This workshop will include an outside element.

**Saxlingham Nethergate**

**£7 per person. Booking essential**

## Pond condition assessment and management planning

**Thursday 3 October**

**10am-1pm**

How do you decide if a pond is in good ecological condition or if it needs restoration work to enhance its value for wildlife? If a site has several ponds how would you prioritise which ponds to restore and which to leave?

In this workshop you will learn a simple framework for surveying pond condition and how to then prioritise between different ponds and pull together a pond management plan. This event will include an indoor session and then a visit to Mulbarton Common, County Wildlife Site, 5 minutes walk away from the venue, to survey a number of ponds and consider appropriate management.

**Mulbarton Common**

**£7 per person.**

**Booking essential**

## Managing land with nature in mind

**Tuesday 8 October**

**9.30am-1pm**

Do you own, or look after, an area of land managed primarily for the benefit of nature? This could be an area of between 1 and 10 hectares, and may consist of woodland, grassland, paddocks or wetland habitat. Do you own an area that you would like to enhance for nature?

When managing primarily for nature how do you know what habitats and species are present, and what the most suitable management might be? This workshop will begin with an indoor session and then a site visit to a nearby private nature reserve to discuss some practical issues and solutions.

We will cover:

- Assessing the current habitats and species present.
- Sources of information on managing different habitats.
- Creating a basic management plan.

**Bracon Ash**

**£7 per person. Booking essential**

## Managing planted woodlands with wildlife in mind

**Saturday 16 November**

**10am-1pm**

Have you planted a woodland and are wondering what to do next, or have a dark, uniformly aged woodland that you would like to improve for wildlife?

This workshop will explain how to vary the structure and features in a woodland to encourage diversity.

**Acle**

**£7 per person. Booking essential**



## Community focus...

### A meadow in the making

**Wednesday 29 May**

**10am-12noon**

Discover how the local community of Stoke Holy Cross are transforming an acre and a half of former farmland into an oasis for wildlife and people.

**Stoke Holy Cross**

**Free. Booking essential**

### Creating a meadow from scratch

**Saturday 6 July**

**10.30am-12noon**

Thornham Jubilee Meadow, is a non-profit organisation dedicated to transforming a 17-acre area of ex-arable land into a tapestry of annual and perennial wildflowers among native trees. Join some of the trustees of this project to see how they are turning the dream into reality.

**Thornham**

**Free. Booking essential**

### Tour of Kenninghall Wood & Hemp Meadow Wood

**Tuesday 24 September**

**10am-12noon**

A chance to find out how Kenninghall Lands Trust and local volunteers created and manage their 15 acre community woodlands for wildlife.

**Kenninghall**

**Free. Booking essential**

## Planning & advocacy

### How to get the best outcomes for wildlife from planning decisions where you live

**Wednesday 9 October**

**6-7pm**

Join Mike Jones, Planning & Advocacy Manager, for some top tips on how to get the best outcomes for wildlife from planning decisions in your community.

**Online - webinar**

**Free. Booking essential**



### Norfolk Wildlife Trust

Bewick House, 22 Thorpe Road, Norwich NR1 1RY

Tel: 01603 625540

Email: [info@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:info@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk)

Visit: [norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk)

Photographs:

NWT, Paul Hobson, Nick Appleton,

Richard Osbourne, Marcus Wehrle.

Registered charity 208734



NorfolkWT



[norfolkwt](https://www.instagram.com/norfolkwt)



[NorfolkWildlifeTrust](https://www.facebook.com/NorfolkWildlifeTrust)

[norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk)