

What you can do to help

The Hertfordshire Biodiversity Partnership is working hard to halt the biodiversity loss in Hertfordshire but we need your help.

What you can do:

- Make your garden more wildlife-friendly. Visit the Royal Horticultural Society website www.rhs.org.uk for further information on gardening for wildlife.
- Support a local or national conservation organisation.
- Join a local conservation group.
- Learn more about biodiversity in Hertfordshire by attending walks, talks or events organised by local conservation organisations and voluntary groups.
- Contact your local authority to find out what they are doing for biodiversity and whether there is an opportunity for you to get involved. Local Biodiversity Action Plans or strategies have been produced in several districts and boroughs across the County.

To find out more

The Hertfordshire Biodiversity Partnership includes local authorities, statutory agencies, nature conservation organisations and voluntary interest groups working together to help implement the Hertfordshire Biodiversity Action Plan.

A Biodiversity Officer post, funded by the Hertfordshire Environmental Forum with support from Natural England, provides a driving force behind co-ordinating delivery of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

For more information on the Hertfordshire Biodiversity Action Plan contact the Biodiversity Officer at bap@hef.org.uk or visit the Hertfordshire Environmental Forum website at:

www.hef.org.uk

For details of conservation volunteering opportunities and events contact:

- Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust
Tel: 01727 858901
www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/herts
- Countryside Management Service
Tel: 01462 459395 (Northeastern Area Office)
Tel: 01727 848168 (West & Southern Area Office)
www.hertsdirect.org/cms

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Clare Gray, Tim Hill, Andrew Middleton and the Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust Image Library.

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Biodiversity Action Plans

A 50 year vision for the wildlife
and natural habitats of Hertfordshire
A Local Biodiversity Action Plan




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What is Biodiversity?

Biodiversity describes the wide variety of wildlife and the habitats in which our wildlife lives, not just in the countryside but also in our towns and cities.

IT SIGNIFIES THE VARIETY OF LIFE ON EARTH.

Conserving Biodiversity

As a result of human activity, biodiversity is under threat - in the UK we are losing habitats and many species of animals and plants have become rare or threatened with extinction. Conserving biodiversity is not just about rare or threatened species and habitats - it is about all wildlife and improving the environments on which our wildlife depends for future generations to enjoy.

How are we addressing this?

In 1992, the UK signed an agreement at the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit to develop a national plan for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources. This resulted in the development of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), a national plan which is now the primary framework for conserving wildlife and habitats across the UK.

In response to this national initiative, a Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Hertfordshire was first produced in 1998. Entitled 'A 50 year vision for the wildlife and natural habitats of Hertfordshire', the Biodiversity Action Plan aims to conserve and increase the biodiversity found in Hertfordshire.

Our Local Biodiversity Action Plan

A series of Habitat Action Plans to protect and restore our woodland, wetland, farmland, grassland and urban habitats were developed. In addition, several Species Action Plans to protect and enhance species of local, regional and national significance were also prepared. These include the Otter, Water Vole, Bittern, Stone-curlew, Cornflower, River Water-dropwort and Grizzled Skipper butterfly. The Habitat and Species Action Plans have since been revised and our Local Biodiversity Action Plan was relaunched in 2006.

How are we implementing this?

The Hertfordshire Biodiversity Partnership (one of the five working groups of the Hertfordshire Environmental Forum) was established to deliver the actions identified in the Hertfordshire Biodiversity Action Plan.

Stag Beetle



Cornflower



Otter



Wetland habitat



Pasqueflowers



Grizzled Skipper



Farmland habitat

