



Herts and
Middlesex

HMWT Working For Wildlife Factsheet

Why work with Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust (HMWT)?

Taking part in one of our Working for Wildlife Days is a fantastic way to contribute to local wildlife. The activity can be part of an ongoing partnership with the Trust, or as a one-off event, but the benefits are mutual:

Benefits to your organisation

- Improve team building, communication and skill development – outside the everyday working environment;
- Staff can take part in an enjoyable and rewarding day in an inspirational outdoor setting, improving health, well-being and morale;
- Meet your organisation's Corporate Social Responsibility commitments whilst simultaneously making a practical contribution towards your local wildlife.

Benefits to your local wildlife

- Additional workforce from local staff teams increases the Trust's capacity to deliver practical conservation work in the areas close to your place of work - managing local reserves and wildlife habitats for your local wildlife to flourish;
- Organisations and individuals, often not directly involved in wildlife conservation, learn the importance of their local wildlife and ways in which they can make a positive impact.

Working in the community

Not only are our nature reserves valuable for the wildlife they contain, they are essential for engaging the community with their natural environment. Our Working for Wildlife Days provide a great opportunity to make a positive impact in your local community, home to many of your staff and customers.

Locations

We manage over 40 nature reserves throughout the two counties. Our Working for Wildlife Days take place on the key sites that can best accommodate staff teams from local businesses.

Time of year

The wildlife breeding and plant growth season generally lasts between May and September. As such, most of our conservation work, like scrub clearance, ride creation and coppicing, takes place between October and mid-March. A limited number of summer tasks are also available on a selection of sites, such as Himalayan balsam pulling and hay raking.

Work tasks

Tasks are designed so that individuals of all levels of skill and experience can participate. Any training or demonstration necessary will be given on the day. No mechanical equipment is used and a full Health & Safety briefing will be given prior to the task. Each work task will be managed by a trained member of staff. The number of staff allocated will be dependent on group size.

Cost

Costs for these events are from £40 per head (plus VAT) for our corporate members, and £50 per head (plus VAT) for non-members, for a full day.

This cost includes:

- Materials needed for the task* (e.g. tools, protective equipment etc.)
- Staff time for preparation and management on the day
- Refreshments on the day (tea, coffee etc.)

**Some tasks may require additional material costs which we may request a contribution towards in order to take the booking. These are highlighted on our Working for Wildlife Schedule and will be discussed with you upon booking.*

The cost does not include:

- Transport to and from the site
- Lunch – most groups bring their own or purchase locally

*Please note, upon booking your activity we request that **final participant numbers are confirmed up to two weeks before the event date**. You will be invoiced on this confirmed number. Please see our Terms & Conditions for more information.*

FAQs

Q: How many people can you accommodate on your reserves?

A: This varies considerably by reserve, but we ask for a minimum of five people and maximum of 15 people per team day. Please contact us if you have a larger team.

Q: What should I wear on the day?

A: Long trousers/ sleeves and sturdy footwear – something you don't mind getting dirty. If you are working in rivers, wellies are essential. We have a limited stock of these, as well as some waders if needed. Bring gardening gloves if you have them.

Q: What if I have no practical experience?

A: All our tasks are designed for individuals without previous experience. A reasonable level of physical fitness will be required, which varies depending upon the activity.

Q: What if the weather is bad?

A: If sustained bad weather is forecast we can reschedule. However, we fully appreciate that organising a group activity for one day is difficult so will do our best to continue arrangements or provide an alternative.

Q: Why do we charge for Working for Wildlife Days?

A: We are a small, local charity and receive no central government funding. As such, we need to charge to cover the costs of running these practical conservation activities for local businesses. In most cases, the charge covers all the materials needed for the task, although some additional costs may be required depending on the activity. It also includes tools and equipment, as well as any personal protective equipment needed for the task, which with continued usage need to be regularly maintained and replaced when necessary. It also contributes towards our staff costs, including preparation time and management on the day, all of which have to be accounted for in the charges we ask for.

Contact

Please contact us for more information about organising your Working for Wildlife Day or to discuss other corporate partnership opportunities.

T: 01727 858901 **E:** fundraising@hmwt.org **W:** www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/corporate
Grebe House, St Michael's Street, St Albans, Herts AL3 4SN