# Wildlife in Colchester

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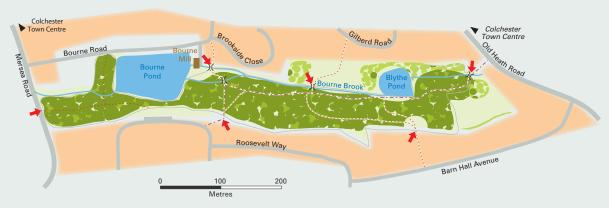
# BOURNE VALLEY LOCAL WILDLIFE SITE

5.7 hectares

Wooded wetland

- Easy access trail
- Fishing on Blythe Pond (EA rod licence required)
- Forest Schools outdoor classroom (bookable)
- National Trust's Bourne Mill nearby

A boardwalk linking Mersea Road and Old Heath Road runs through woodland beside Bourne Brook. The attractive brook is lined with willows and in places large numbers of Orb Mussels can be seen on its bed. Bluebells thrive on the drier slopes. The boardwalk passes Blythe Pond, a former mill pond overhung by willows and surrounded by wetland plants that provide cover for toads and frogs. Bats feed over the water on warm evenings.



## FREE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO ALL SITES, ALL DAY EVERY DAY

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#### Colchester Natural History Society

Colchester Natural History Society kindly secured the funding for this display and provided much of the information. The Society produces regular publications including a newsletter and programme of events. CNHS holds field meetings and evening talks throughout the year. New members always welcome. www.colchesternaturalhistorysociety.org.uk

### Colchester Borough Council Ranger Service

The ranger service manage and maintain these green spaces throughout Colchester. They work closely with various community groups and volunteers to achieve high standards of conservation and to provide recreation and educational opportunities in the local area. www.colchester.gov.uk/parks

