

Wildlife in Colchester

Visit a Colchester Borough Council Reserve to discover more



Stag Beetle; male



Primrose



Bluebell



Yellow Archangel



Wood Anemone



Grass Snake



Common Lizard



Water Vole

WELSH WOOD LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

2.7 hectares

Ancient woodland

- Forest School outdoor classroom (bookable)
- Main path is surfaced

Welsh Wood is managed in the traditional way by coppicing – cutting the trees down to ground level on rotation. It has a carpet of bluebells in the spring, along with Yellow Archangel and Wood Anemone. Standing dead trunks are left for woodpeckers and wood habitat piles for Stag Beetles. Its larvae feed off decaying wood and can take 3 – 5 years before forming the adult beetle.

SALARY BROOK LOCAL WILDLIFE SITE

19.5 hectares

Grassland & wetland

- Grass path network throughout
- Cycle track runs whole length of site
- Fishing permitted on two ponds (EA rod license required)
- One pond has disabled access

This river valley supports scrub and woodland, marsh and wet grassland. Its wealth of wildlife includes species not often encountered in an urban area, such as Dormouse, Water Vole and Otter, and over 100 plant species including the rare Sneezewort.

FREE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO ALL SITES, ALL DAY EVERY DAY

Photo Credits: D. Barnard, D. Tansley, E. Wells, I. Rose, J. Dobson, L. Cutting, M. Fremlin, M. Rickard, P. Beard, P. Douch, P. Richardson, R. Hance, R. Leavett, R. Moulson, S. Lindsell, T. Benton



Key to maps

Habitats		Facilities	
grassland		parking area	
scrub		entrance	
ancient woodland		footpath	
coppice woodland		cycle track	
marsh		road	
hedgerow			
Water bodies			
Site boundary			



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