

Wildlife in Colchester

Visit a Colchester Borough Council Reserve to discover more



Autumn leaves



Unripe Hazel Nuts



Muntjac



Spangle Galls



Cinnabar Moth Caterpillars

WESTLANDS COUNTRY PARK

16 hectares

Woodland & grassland

- Easy access trail around perimeter
- Trim trail and play areas

Created on the former Shrub End landfill site, this country park was capped and planted with trees in three phases between 1998 and 2002 and opened in 2007. It is owned by Essex County Council and run in partnership with Colchester Borough Council.

An area of grassland is managed to encourage wildflowers, the cap being seeded with a wildflower mix when the site was first established. In early summer Common Vetch, Grass Vetchling and Meadow Vetchling can be seen, later in the season Bird's-foot-trefoil, and Tufted Vetch appear. In areas of disturbed soil Bristly Ox-tongue and Teasel are common. Roesel's Bush-cricket and Meadow Grasshopper can be heard in late summer.

The trees have established well with the Hazel becoming mature enough to produce hazel nuts. The Oak plays host to all manner of insects including gall wasp larva; look out for Spangle Galls on the underside of Oak leaves. The Field Maple and Cherry leaves add colour to the site in autumn.

FREE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO ALL SITES, ALL DAY EVERY DAY

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Key to maps	
Habitats	Facilities
grassland	parking area
scrub	toilets
ancient woodland	entrance
coppice	footpath
woodland	road
marsh	play area
hedgerow	
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