

# Wilder Communities Programme



## Preserve Ponds

FREE WEBINARS  
AND WORKSHOPS  
APRIL 2023

### Pond Survey Workshop

Tuesday 25 April 2023

Nicky Payne, North West Area Officer

[Register](#)

Many of you will be familiar with the spectacular sight of a hovering damselfly or floating frogspawn. However, understanding whether a pond is healthy or not, and how to manage it can be tricky! This workshop will help you understand how to best protect and understand these freshwater habitats.

### Pond Creation Webinar

Wednesday 26 April 2023

Danielle Carbott, Wilder Communities Manager

[Register](#)

Ponds support around two thirds of all freshwater species, a staggering amount, but they are in decline! Creating a community or garden pond is an easy but impactful step you can take to help our natural ecosystems bounce back. This is a beginners webinar on how to create your own garden or community pond.



# Wilder Communities Programme

## Survey for Success

FREE WEBINARS  
AND WORKSHOPS  
MAY 2023

### Healthy Hedgerows Survey Workshop

Wednesday 10 May 2023

Iona Kay, Roding Valley Meadows Ranger

[Register](#)

Hedgerows act as wildlife corridors that not only provide essential refuge, but link up fragmented habitats across our landscapes. To health-check your established or newly planted hedgerow, come along and learn about the different hedge structures, key features and UK tree species that make a healthy hedgerow. This workshop will also be useful to those who are developing hedgerow creation sites to support future management.

### Woodland Condition Assessment Workshop

Thursday 11 May 2023

Nicky Payne, North West Area Officer

[Register](#)

Woodlands are a familiar site across our landscapes, home to thousands of species in the UK. To understand whether your local woodland on your park, recreational ground or open space is in good ecological condition join us on a walk through survey. You will get a chance to hear about key woodland features, and the management used to address different issues. This workshop will also be useful to those who are developing or have established woodland creation sites to support future management.



# Wilder Communities Programme

## Benefit Bugs

FREE WEBINARS  
AND WORKSHOPS

MAY 2023

### Pesticide Free Town Webinar

Tuesday 23 May 2023

Nick Mole, Pesticide Action Network UK

[Register](#)

Our cities, towns and villages can be safe havens for wildlife, with our parks, playgrounds, road verges, gardens and open spaces providing vital habitats. However, a wide range of pesticides are often used in these spaces which can have devastating impacts on our urban biodiversity. If you want to become a Pesticide Free Town, this webinar will give local authorities the strategies needed to succeed.

### Build a Bee Bank Workshop

Wednesday 24 May 2023

Sam Roche, Thameside Nature Discovery Park Ranger

[Register](#)

As well as Bumblebees and Honey bees, the UK is home to around 240 species of Solitary bee. Most of these species nest in tunnels or holes in the ground or in sandy banks and crumbling mortar. To support our local native solitary bees, this workshop will give you an insight into how to build a bee bank for gardens and community spaces.

### Stag Beetle Stumperry Workshop

Thursday 25 May 2023

Nicky Payne, North West Area Officer

[Register](#)

Stag Beetles are one of the largest insects in the UK famous for its fearsome antler-like jaws. They rely on decaying wood to both feed on as larvae and in which to lay their eggs. Stag Beetles are distributed across South East England, so this workshop will give you the tools to build a stumperry in your community space helping increase the availability of habitat.

# Wilder Communities Programme

## More Meadows

FREE WEBINARS  
AND WORKSHOPS  
JUNE 2023

### Rapid Grassland Assessment Workshop

Tuesday 27 & Wednesday 28 June 2023

Charlotte McLachlan, Assistant Reserves Ecologist

[Register 27 June](#)

[Register 28 June](#)

Managing flower-rich meadows involves monitoring and surveying wildflower species on an annual basis through the months of May to June. Positive and negative indicators help to create a picture of the health of a meadow and how it needs to be managed. This workshop is an introduction to Rapid Grassland Assessments, providing you with key skills and processes that can be applied to your own meadow project.

### Wilder Verges Webinar

Thursday 29 June 2023

Danielle Carbott, Wilder Communities Manager

Mark Halladay, Wivenhoe Town Council Volunteer

[Register](#)

Flower-rich meadows are home to over 700 species of wild plants, but any grassy patch including verges can become a meadow. Representatives from Wivenhoe Town Council will be sharing how they launched and delivered their 2021 Green Space project. 141 different wildflower species were recorded, up to 30 times more wildflowers were present and 95% approval in feedback from residents was achieved.

### Wildflower ID Introduction

Thursday 29 & Friday 30 June 2023

Colin Austin, Assistant Ecologist

[Register 29 June](#)

[Register 30 June](#)

From the humble buttercup to the delicate meadow vetchling, our wildflowers are eye-catchingly beautiful. This workshop will help you identify the characteristics of wildflowers you will see around Essex, whilst also focusing on positive and negative indicators for meadow sites.



# Wilder Communities Programme

## Greener Gardens

FREE WEBINARS  
AND WORKSHOPS  
JULY 2023

### RSPB Flatford Mill Wildlife Garden Tour

Monday 17 July 2023

Amy Ward, RSPB Visitor Experience Officer  
Mike Jarrold, Head Gardener

[Register](#)

This family-friendly wildlife garden has been designed to inspire you with ideas to take home to your own gardens or community green spaces. This garden tour will give you the opportunity to meet the head gardener, and learn about key features such as the living willow tunnel, pond and pollinator friendly planting.

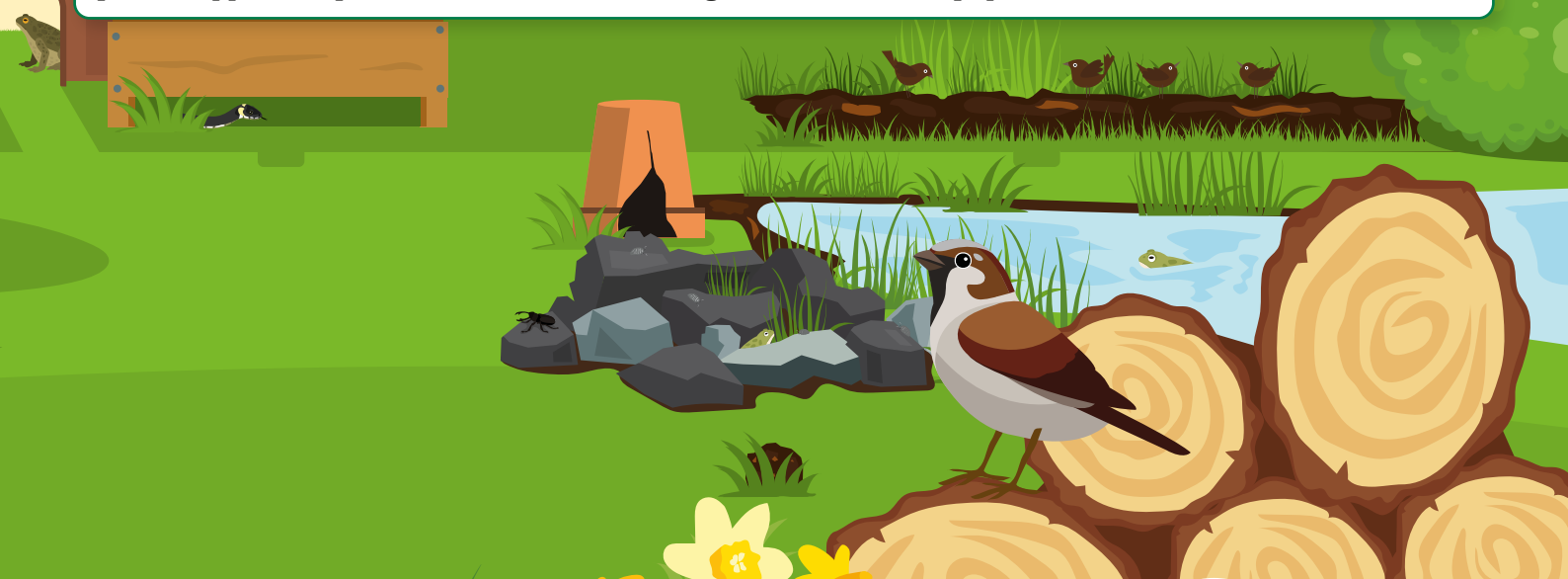
### John Little Hilldrop Garden Tour

Tuesday 18 July 2023

John Little – Grassroof Company

[Register](#)

A new trial garden at Hilldrop using sand from the local A13 road widening has created an example of how brownfield landscapes are valuable. Alongside his work with Green Roofs, John Little is leading the way when it comes to urban landscapes and how they can provide for both people and wildlife. This garden tour will give you the opportunity to see first-hand how to design a wild community space.



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## Transform with Trees

**FREE WEBINARS  
AND WORKSHOPS**  
SEPTEMBER 2023

### Orchard Creation Webinar

Tuesday 26 September 2023

Danielle Carbott, Wilder Communities Manager

[Register](#)

Buzzing with life and brimming with fresh fruit, orchards are wonderful habitats for both people and wildlife! Although many have been lost over recent decades, this webinar will support you plan and prepare for your own orchard project. Orchards are a mosaic of trees, grasses, shrubs and wildflowers so you will learn which key features to include in your local orchard.

### Hedgerow Creation Webinar

Wednesday 27 September 2023

Danielle Carbott, Wilder Communities Manager

[Register](#)

Hedgerow are valuable wildlife corridors across our landscapes. They link up habitats, aid the movement of wildlife and provide a rich larder throughout the year. You might be planting a brand new hedge, replacing one that was removed or filling in gaps. Whatever your project plan, this webinar will support you plan and prepare for your own hedgerow project.

### Tree Nursery Workshop

Friday 29 September 2023

Alex Hewitt, Thames Chase Trust Programmes Officer

[Register](#)

For woodland creation, using native UK species from local sites is important. This workshop will help you understand how to prepare, plant and care for your saplings so they can be planted in the right place. We will also focus on ID of our UK tree species so you can choose the right native tree for your project.

