

# Wild Workdays



West Kent golf course © Daniel Greenwood



## Taking part in a Wild Workday with London Wildlife Trust

**You can access Wild Workdays for your team as part of our Investors in Wildlife scheme or through a longer-term partnership with us.**

Wild Workdays take place on a number of our nature reserves across London, and are the perfect opportunity for your team to get outdoors and active, working together with colleagues to make a real difference to London's wild spaces.



© Mattinson Partnership

*'The office had a great time restoring flooded paths and picking up litter throughout the wood... It was exciting to have the opportunity to explore areas we'd never been. Hugely rewarding and even more fun!'* Evie Beentjes, Mattinson Partnership



tree planting with UPS © UPS

## Benefits for you

- Group activities enhance team bonds and boost morale
- Conservation tasks introduce new skills and improve communication outside the everyday working environment
- Enjoyment of a rewarding day in an inspirational setting
- The opportunity to engage and visibly contribute to the local environment

## Benefits for us:

- London Wildlife Trust receives practical help on our nature reserves from highly motivated groups, completing work we wouldn't otherwise be able to do
- Organisations and individuals, often without experience of wildlife or conservation, learn about the importance of conserving nature in an urban context



## What can you expect?

Tasks vary according to season, but are always practical, fun and make an important contribution to urban nature conservation in London. Workdays can be tailored to suit the interests of the volunteers and their skill-sets. Popular activities include: hedge planting, bird and bat box creation, habitat enhancements, tree coppicing, building stag beetle loggeries, reed bed cutting, pond clearing and meadow restoration. Wild Workdays are normally suitable for a maximum group size of 15, although this can vary depending on the nature reserve and time of year.

Once the breeding season starts (early March) we take a step back from heavy conservation interventions, and allow wildlife to use our nature reserves as a sanctuary to breed. During these months we do have restrictions to team sizes and activities undertaken on site in order to comply with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, legislation in place to protect animals, plants and habitats in the UK.

## What does London Wildlife Trust provide?

- ✓ An expert staff member to run the day
- ✓ All tools and materials needed for practical conservation activities
- ✓ Risk assessment
- ✓ Health and safety briefing

## What do you need to provide?

- ✓ Volunteers are asked to wear appropriate clothing for the workday. Waterproof, long-sleeved clothing and sturdy outdoor footwear are essential.
- ✓ Teams are responsible for arranging transport to and from the site and are advised to bring their own lunch and water. Some of our sites have cafes at which you can arrange to have lunch.

© London Wildlife Trust

*'It was a really great day for all of our guys and they all thoroughly enjoyed it. We all felt like we made a large contribution... and what a great job your team carried out for us all.'*  
Jan Porter, UK Power Networks



© London Wildlife Trust

## Cost and payment

Wild Workdays are delivered exclusively for our members and partners. If your organisation joins us as a **Business Member** through our Investors in Wildlife scheme, we will ask you to make a contribution to cover the costs to London Wildlife Trust of delivering the Wild Workday – this covers the costs of staff time, tools and materials for the day, and surplus is re-invested into our wider conservation work across London.

We offer complimentary Wild Workdays, along with other benefits, if your organisation joins us as a **Business Partner** through our Investors in Wildlife scheme.

### Costs

**Business Members:**

£600 (+VAT) per year to become a Business Member through our Investors in Wildlife scheme

**Standard charge for Business Members:**

£55 per person per day (+VAT)

£28 per person per half-day (+VAT)

**Business Partners:**

£1,500 (+VAT) per year to become a Business Partner through our Investors in Wildlife scheme

**Standard charge for Business Partners:**

Two free Wild Workdays

£55 per person per day/£28 per person per half-day thereafter (+VAT)

## What happens next?

If you would like to express an interest in a Wild Workday for your team, we will need from you:

- ✓ Confirmation of your preferred Wild Workday date(s)
- ✓ The approximate number of employees who will participate in your Wild Workday

We will ask you to sign and return our Wild Workday terms and conditions, which will be taken as confirmation of your booking.

We will then send you:

- ✓ A site information sheet containing all you need to know about the nature reserve your team has been allocated to, who your main contact will be at London Wildlife Trust and details of your day including activities, available facilities, and meeting point
- ✓ An invoice for the workday (if your company is not a Business Partner through our Investors in Wildlife scheme)

You will then be put in touch directly with your London Wildlife Trust contact to fine tune any details of the Wild Workday.

## Where do Wild Workdays take place?

Wild Workdays typically take place at 3-4 of our nature reserves across London – each one is unique and really benefits from the practical work corporate volunteers lend their time to. We can also book Wild Workdays at a number of our other nature reserves across London, if conservation tasks are needed there at the time. We will always try to match teams to a reserve that works for you and that would most benefit from your input.

Some more information about the main Wild Workday nature reserves is provided below.

### Braeburn Park, Bexley

Braeburn Park is a 20 hectare nature reserve in the London borough of Bexley. This site has previously been an orchard, a Victorian landfill site, a testing area for shotguns, and most recently a quarry. There has been little habitat management over the years, and as a result the area is in an unfavourable state. Wild Workdays will help achieve our vision to protect and enhance the biodiversity of the reserve, whilst providing a place that will be highly valued by the local community as an open space for recreation, education and enjoyment.

This reserve is just 30 minutes from central London – nearest rail station is Crayford (direct train from London Bridge).



*Braeburn Park © London Wildlife Trust*



*Huckersby's Meadows © Simon Hawkins*

### Huckerby's Meadows, Hillingdon

Formally opened to the public in 2018, Huckerby's Meadows' location at the end of Heathrow Airport's first runway provides a stunning juxtaposition of urban life and wildlife, side by side. The reserve sits on the western banks of the River Crane and provides a home for invertebrates and other animals that thrive in its mixed terrain of old pastures, remnant orchard, scrub, river and wet woodland, as well as grassland. With the northern sections of the site recently restored from being a car-park, we have started developing our plans for the future of this very unique nature reserve.

The nearest tube station is Hounslow West (Piccadilly line).

## Woodberry Wetlands, Hackney

Woodberry Wetlands reserve was created on the site of the East Reservoir in Stoke Newington. Originally constructed in 1833, and closed to the public until 2016, the reservoir is home to birds such as reed bunting, song thrush, kingfisher and the occasional bittern. It provides valuable foraging and roosting habitat for bats. A key habitat is the reed beds - a rare breeding ground for reed warbler, sedge warbler and reed bunting.

Woodberry Wetlands offers great opportunities for people to enjoy nature in the heart of bustling London.

The reserve is 10 minutes' walk from Manor House tube station (Piccadilly line).



Woodberry Wetlands © Penny Dixie



Hutchinson's Bank © Hadi el Ali

## Hutchinson's Bank, Croydon

Hutchinson's Bank and Chapel Bank nature reserves are large areas of internationally important chalk grassland habitat which support many rare plants and insects. Part of a dry chalk valley, the sites are a butterfly spotter's paradise and a great place to find orchids and bluebells. This landscape was traditionally grazed by sheep until the 1950s, but changes occurred as new settlements were developed. London Wildlife re-introduced conservation grazing to the sites in 2011, and volunteers help manage the rare grassland as well as the mosaic of scrub and woodland that helps multiple species to thrive.

The reserves are a short walk from New Addington Tramlink stop.

**Thank you for your interest in taking part in a Wild Workday with London Wildlife Trust.**

If you are interested in joining us we would love to hear from you:

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