

Volunteer role guideline



Role title: Survey Force

Purpose of your role: To assist with habitat and species surveying and monitoring on Warwickshire Wildlife Trust nature reserves.

Surveys you will be involved with:

- Botany (national vegetation classification and habitat condition)
- Pond /amphibian
- Invertebrates (butterflies, dragonflies and moths)
- Birds and breeding bird populations
- Small mammals
- Fungi
- Bioblitz

Survey Force is our volunteer group who carry out surveys on Warwickshire Wildlife Trust nature reserves.

As a Survey Force volunteer, you have the option to join our regular larger group sessions which take place on alternate Mondays* during the survey season (April–September) or if you would prefer and opportunities are available, you may survey by yourself or in smaller groups at a Warwickshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve of your choice at a time more suited to you (please note that the exception to this is that some surveys are required to be done at certain times of the day and year). Alternatively; you may choose to do a mixture of both the larger group and individual surveying. For more information, please get in contact and we will be happy to discuss the various options with you.

*For volunteers wanting to join our Monday sessions, we either leave Brandon Marsh Nature Centre in the minibus at 10:00 am and head to a reserve to carry out the survey or arrange to meet at the site to be surveyed (in which case details of meet times and locations will be provided separately). Please note this is an approximate guide and survey sessions may be arranged on different days and times as required.

We also run various workshops to train people in identification skills and how to carry out surveys. The workshops are usually free to attend on the condition that attendees use their new skills to survey a reserve in their own time.

If we are unable to provide appropriate surveying opportunities, we may be able to direct you to other organisations who can assist.

Skills and abilities required:

- Enthusiasm for wildlife and the ability to make your own way to our nature reserves
- If carrying out surveys on an individual basis, we would ask for good survey and identification skills



You will be based at: various reserves throughout Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull.

Days and time we would like you to be available: If attending our Survey Force Monday sessions, volunteers meet throughout the survey season (April–September) at approximately 10.00 am. Sessions usually finish at approximately 3:00 pm, although this depends on the individual survey. If travelling on our minibus, we aim to get back to Brandon Marsh Nature Centre by no later than 4:00 pm.

There is no minimum commitment required, just simply let us know that you plan to attend, turn up on time, enjoy yourself and come back if you would like to do more. Individual surveys are flexible and can be done at a time that suits you providing conditions are suitable for that survey.

Benefits to you:

- Learn new skills in survey techniques and species identification
- Learn more about local ecology and wildlife
- Meet like-minded people and local wildlife experts
- Keep active, enjoy the outdoors and get closer to nature
- Improve your health and wellbeing

Your staff contact: Surveying, Management & Monitoring Officer

