

Saving Oxford's Wetland Wildlife

Helping people and communities get involved in conserving the rare and diverse freshwater wildlife found in and around Oxford's wetlands

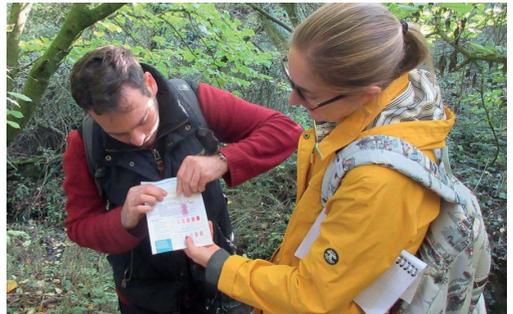
The Oxford area is a national hotspot for freshwater biodiversity.

Saving Oxford's Wetland Wildlife is raising awareness of Oxford's freshwater wildlife through a series of free public talks and guided visits to some of the city's most special wetland sites. Sadly, over the last 20 years many of Oxford's freshwater species have either declined significantly or have already been lost. You can help stop the decline by joining us in monitoring wildlife and water quality across the city.



Help us find unpolluted freshwater habitats in Oxford!

Clean water free from nutrient pollution is one of the most important drivers for healthy freshwater habitats. Can you or your community group help us find the clean freshwater treasures of Oxford? You can use our free, quick and simple water testing kits to discover both the true extent of pollution impacting your local ponds, streams, rivers and ditches, and to find the clean water gems. The water testing kits measure the levels of nitrate and phosphate: pollutants that pose a risk to wildlife. You can use them as part of an activity day, to learn more about sites you might volunteer at, or just to discover more about your local environment.



Other surveys you can take part in

Spawn Survey

From February until the end of May each year, we will be collecting important data on the location of breeding frogs and toads across the country. We're asking you to record both toad and frog spawn in your garden ponds, local community ponds, and any ponds you come across in your adventures in the countryside. You can download the survey recording form, take a look at how to identify toad and frog spawn and learn how to find a grid reference by visiting our website.

Common Toad



eDNA Survey for Amphibians, Fish and Other Wildlife

Help us monitor amphibians, fish and other species across the region by collecting a water sample. We will analyse the water using exciting new environmental DNA techniques to see which species are present. The survey is open to all: both groups and interested individuals. No previous experience is needed.

eDNA Survey



Greater Water-parsnip



Rare Species Surveys

Surveying for rare species to help us monitor some of the wonderful plants and animals found in Oxford. We will provide identification guides and survey forms as well as some training to help you brush up on your skills. Species that we want to get surveyed include: Tubular Water-dropwort, Greater Water-parsnip and Variable Damselfly.

Cotteslowe Meadow



Managing sites

If you want to get your hands dirty why not join us on a practical management day? We are working on some of the most important sites for freshwater wildlife in Oxford. Come and help us with reed cutting, scrub bashing and even translocating rare plants.

'Saving Oxford's Wetland Wildlife' is working in partnership with the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme to ensure that the full environmental and community benefit of the flood scheme can be realised. It is funded by Thames Water and TOE with funding from Grundon Waste Management Ltd through the Landfill Communities Fund.



Take Part!

Email: fdunn@freshwaterhabitats.org.uk
freshwaterhabitats.org.uk/projects/saving-oxfords-wetland-wildlife/