



Volunteering

Parks and Countryside Volunteers aim to improve the green spaces of Leeds for people and wildlife.

Volunteer activities taking place across Leeds this spring and summer include amphibian surveys, dry stone walling, pond creation and community fun days.

The following section provides details of some of the volunteer groups who will be doing this work and would welcome new members. To get involved use the contact details provided or email the Parks and Countryside Rangers at countrysiderangers@leeds.gov.uk

Leeds Voluntary Footpath Rangers

Site: Public Rights of Way across Leeds

Meet: Every other Thursday from 1st April 2010.

The Leeds Voluntary Footpath Rangers are a longstanding group who do a fantastic job maintaining the public rights of way of Leeds. They work with council staff on all aspects of maintenance work including vegetation cut backs, bridge repairs/building/installation, step building, resurfacing, gate repair/installation, fencing, stiles and dry stone walling. Often the work can be technical and challenging as several of the volunteers who attend are quite experienced, but if you are new to this kind of work, training will be provided.

Contact: Rosie Watts on rosie.watts@leeds.gov.uk or 0113 237 5277

Friends of Roundhay Park

Site: Roundhay Park, LS8

Meet: Every second Saturday of each month, 10am - 1pm in Mansion car park. The Friends of Roundhay Park also open up the library at the mansion every Saturday afternoon between 2 - 5 pm.

Over the years the Friends of Roundhay Park has been active they have established a 'Friends Garden', opened a geology trail in conjunction with Leeds Geological association, made an accessible path through the ravine and planted hundreds of daffodils, wild flowers, ferns, shrubs and trees. There is no shortage of jobs and projects. The group would welcome new members, saying they are a 'very friendly group - we always stop for tea, buns and a chat'.

Contact: Jon Vogler on (0113) 266 1885 or email jon@vogler.demon.co.uk





Friends of Adel Wood

Site: Adel Wood and Adel Moor, LS17

Meet: Third weekend of month (days vary), 10 am - 12 noon.

Just a few months after getting together this friends of group is already going strong and organising practical tasks and other events to maintain, improve and enjoy this wonderful woodland in North Leeds.

Contact: To find out more, check out the Alwoodley Parish Council website or contact Roger Gilbert on 0113 285 7136 or foaw@me.com

Friends of Primrose Valley

Site: Primrose Valley, LS15

Meet: Times of practical work days vary. Evening meetings take place on first Wednesday of month at 7pm.

Primrose Valley Action Group aim to promote and improve Primrose Valley for the local community. We hold litter-picks, tree/bulb planting, tidy the ponds and occasionally hold nature walks.

Contact: Julie Clarke on 07736 681 275 or through our website at www.pvag.co.uk

Friends of Middleton Park

Site: Middleton park, LS10

Meet: At the Lakeside Centre every Sunday afternoon May to September

The Friends of Middleton Park (FoMP) were formed in 2003 to promote local interest and involvement in the park and its woodland through Improving Facilities, Encouraging Use, Protecting Wildlife, and Promoting Activities - please see our website for more information

Contact: email info@fomp.co.uk, phone Alan Shaw - 07747 092 459 or check out the website www.fomp.co.uk

Friends of Chevin Forest Park

Site: Chevin Forest Park, Otley

Meet: Every 2nd Sunday of the month, 9.30am - 3.30pm.

The Friends of Chevin Forest Park carry out essential estate management work on this beautiful Local Nature Reserve. Tasks are varied and include hedge laying, boardwalk construction, orchard maintenance and scrub clearance. If practical work is not for you then come and help the group develop projects such as sculpture trails, interpretation panels or researching the history of the area.

Contact: For more details email us at admin@chevinforest.co.uk, contact the Rangers on 0113 237 5268 or check out the website www.chevinforest.co.uk



Friends of Billy Wood

Site: Townclose Hills Local Nature Reserve (locally known as Billy Wood), Kippax (LS25)

Meet: usually on the first Saturday of the month (except bank holidays - then it's the Saturday after) to carry out practical tasks and enjoy the site. Details can be found in the Events guide.

The Friends of Billy Wood work throughout the year to look after and promote one of Leeds's very best nature reserves, helping to manage the limestone grassland, woodland, hedgerows, paths and waterways for people and wildlife. A varied programme of activities runs all year, including practical tasks, walks and surveys.

Contact: email friendsofbillywood@yahoo.co.uk, or call Jenny Watts on 0113 237 5320

Friends of Wykebeck Wood

Site: Wykebeck Wood and Asket Hill, Oakwood (LS8)

Meet: the group have a varied events programme - details can be found in the Events guide.

Litterpicks, surveys and wildlife walks take place throughout the year, and the group has an active committee who hold regular meetings.

Contact: Email countrysiderangers@leeds.gov.uk or call Jenny on (0113) 237 5320

Woodhouse Ridge Action Group

Site: Woodhouse Ridge, LS6

Meet: Last Sunday of the month

This longstanding practical volunteer group have transformed Woodhouse Ridge over the years into the wonderful piece of inner city green space it now is. The group continues to work on the site to ensure it remains a great place for wildlife to live and people to visit. Tasks typically include footpath maintenance, woodland and pond management, interpretation and signage installation. Home made tea and cakes for the lucky volunteers.

Contact: Visit www.woodhouseridge.org.uk for more details or email wridge@woodhouseridge.org.uk

Friends of Gledhow Valley Woods

Site: Gledhow Valley Woods, LS7

Meet: once a month

Friends of Gledhow Valley Woods meet every month either on Sat or Sun to perform practical conservation tasks in this hidden gem of a wildlife area. Tasks are varied but include Litter picks, Boardwalk creation, Beck clearance, and vegetation management.

Contact: Visit <http://www.fgvw.co.uk/index.htm> for more details or contact Martin Calvert on 0113 293 8466 or martin.calvert@sky.com



Friends of Woodhall Lake

Site: Woodhall Lake, LS28

Meet: Every couple of months in the evening plus events on site every now and again.

The Friends of Woodhall Lake aim to preserve the lake and its surrounding area for the benefit of the local community, to promote enhancement of the site whilst preserving the wildlife habitat and to liaise with appropriate authorities in addressing problems of misuse and/or abuse of the site. Activities are generally aimed at keeping the area tidy and trouble-free and enhancing the surroundings by planting bulbs and wildflowers. Nature walks, led by a Parks and Countryside Ranger, take place two or three times a year to observe such features as birds, butterflies, bats, wildflowers and fungi. Friends of Woodhall Lake is a small group which warmly welcomes involvement from the local community in all its activities and at its meetings.

Contact: Secretary: Andrea Wynne. Tel. 0113 256 6151 e-mail: achr.wynne@btinternet.com

Leeds Wildlife Volunteers - Practical tasks

Sites: All over Leeds

Meet: Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 9:30 am - 3.30 pm.

The Leeds Wildlife Volunteers meet twice a month to manage a host of wild spaces across the city, from the beautiful wildflower meadows of Townclose Hills to the nationally important alder wood wetlands of Breary Marsh. The work is varied and has included dry stone walling, hedge laying, tree planting and meadow management.

Contact: find the programme on www.leeds.gov.uk/rangers, phone Dan Malster on 0113 237 5268 or countrysiderangers@leeds.gov.uk

Leeds Wildlife Volunteers - Wildlife surveys

Sites: All over Leeds

The Leeds Wildlife Survey Volunteers work throughout the summer months to survey some of the key wildlife species in Leeds, including bats, newts and crayfish. Wildlife surveys enable us to build up a picture of what wildlife we have and where, so we can manage our green spaces to benefit the plants and animals that live there.

Contact: Kerry Fieldhouse on 0113 237 5326, email countrysiderangers@leeds.gov.uk.





Volunteering

Temple Newsam and Lotherton Hall Volunteers

Site: Temple Newsam Estate, LS15

There are several different volunteer groups working to maintain, improve and promote the Temple Newsam Estate, the details of which are listed below. For more information contact Dave Thorpe at dave.thorpe@leeds.gov.uk or 0113 264 5535 or www.leeds.gov.uk/templenewsam

Estate Volunteers

Meet: Every Tuesday

Undertake practical Estate work such as woodland management, fencing and constructional tasks at Temple Newsam and once a month at Lotherton Hall.

Dave.thorpe@leeds.gov.uk

Friends Group

Meet: One Sunday a month

Practical arm of 'The Friends of Temple Newsam', undertaking mainly Estate work in a relaxed atmosphere

Farm Volunteers

Meet: Every Monday

A small Group who restore buildings and Farm Machinery

Education Volunteers

Meet: Work up to five days a week

A Group at Temple Newsam and Lotherton Hall who work on educational projects with local schools.

Tudor Volunteers

Meet: Work term-time only, for during March, April, May, October and November.

A group who deliver Tudor Historical role-play to visiting schools at Temple Newsam.
0113 2645535

Garden Volunteers

Meet: Flexible working arrangements but a small group meets on Tuesday

A group responsible for our Tudor garden but tackling a wide range of garden tasks on the Estate and in the Rose Gardens.

Friday Group

Meet: Every Friday

Small group of experienced volunteers who undertake practical work across the site.

Park-Watch Volunteers

Meet: Once a month for meetings but patrol as often as you want

Temple Newsam's 'Eyes & Ears'. Regular visitors who can keep a daily eye on the estate, reporting problems when they arise.