

Where are LWS?

If you want to find out if you have a LWS on your land, or to see where the nearest one is to you, you can view a county-wide map of all LWS by logging onto:

<http://info.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/insightmapping>

and then clicking on the 'environmental' box and selecting 'Local Wildlife Sites'. Alternatively, you can contact the Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre at the address below;

(NBGRC) Courtyard Building, Wollaton Park, Nottingham, NG8 2AE Tel: 0115 876 2188

Email: nbgrcg@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Web: <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/article/1047/Nottinghamshire-Biological-and-Geological-Record-Centre-NBGR>

In Nottinghamshire, important geological and geomorphological sites are also assessed and protected through the LWS system, and nationally. Information on geological sites can also be obtained from the NBGRC.



LWS management advice

The following organisations can provide advice on the protection and management of LWS:

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust:

The Old Ragged School, Brook Street, Nottingham NG1 1EA.

Tel: 0115 958 8242

Email: info@nottswt.co.uk

web: <http://www.nottinghamshirewildlife.org/>

Nottinghamshire Farming and Wildlife

Tel: 01777 870817

Email: lesley.sharpe@nottsfarmingandwildlife.org

web: <http://www.notts-farmingandwildlife.org/index.html>

Sherwood Forest Trust:

5&6 Church Farm Business Centre, Mansfield Road, Edwinstowe Nottinghamshire. NG21 9NJ

Tel: 01623 821490

Email: info@sherwoodforesttrust.org.uk

web: <http://www.sherwoodforest.org.uk/>

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Eakring Meadow; Common Darter; Common Lizard (Scott Tilley); Sand Martins (John Smith)



Local Wildlife Sites in Nottinghamshire



What are LWS?



Helping to protect wildlife and its habitats



What are LWS?

Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) are places that are of at least county-level importance for the wildlife they hold. Nottinghamshire's LWS are home to many rare and scarce species, and some are the last fragments of habitats that were once widespread and typical of the Nottinghamshire landscape. Collectively, they form an essential network of corridors and 'stepping stones', allowing the migration and dispersal of species. The survival of these sites is vital to safeguard our wildlife from the pressures of development, agricultural change and climate change.

Local Wildlife Sites (previously called Sites of importance for nature conservation - SINCs) have been identified and protected across the county since 1991 as a result of hard work by many partners, including the Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre (NBGRC), Nottinghamshire County Council, District Councils, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and Natural England (formerly English Nature).

More detail is provided in the Nottinghamshire LWS Handbook. Please see the NBGRC website details below.



How LWS are selected

A group of local experts (including individual naturalists and representatives from a range of organisations) with a detailed knowledge of the flora and fauna of Nottinghamshire, called The Local Sites Panel, researches and produces criteria and thresholds for designating LWS. Once criteria have been agreed and adopted, the NBGRC then applies them to sites, designating new LWS where the relevant thresholds are reached.

There are currently just over 1300 LWS in Nottinghamshire, covering around 7% of the county. Most are notified for their botanical importance, but new sites are now being selected because of their importance for a range of zoological groups, including birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles and invertebrates.



Helping to protect wildlife and its habitats



Planning and land management

Site boundaries and the reasons for site designations are provided to local authorities so that these important wildlife sites can be taken into account in the planning system, as required by national planning policy (National Planning Policy Framework - Part 11 - Conserving and enhancing the natural environment).

Farmers and land managers also have a very important role to play in conserving these sites. Most LWS are in private ownership and their long-term survival depends upon the interest and goodwill of their managers and owners. Most of our valuable grassland and heathland habitats have developed through decades, or even centuries, of traditional land management, but many are now threatened by more intensive farming practices, changes in the agricultural economy, or simply through neglect.

If you are a farmer, the presence of a LWS on your land (or rather, the habitat type it represents) may help you to gain financial support through Countryside Stewardship', the environmental land management scheme.

Advice on managing your LWS and eligibility for Environmental Stewardship Schemes can be obtained from a number of organisations (see contacts below).

