

Nature in Rushcliffe

Your journey starts here...



Nature in Rushcliffe



Rushcliffe is largely rural with farmland, woodland, wetland and urban open spaces.

Rushcliffe is home to a wide range of plants and wild animals. Many species are in decline as a result of modern lifestyles, but there are notable successes in Rushcliffe including the Rushcliffe Barn Owl Project.

Urban areas such as gardens and parks and disused industrial sites and railways are also vital to ensure biodiversity.

Biodiversity

Biodiversity is important to maintain a stable natural environment. The Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) guides how organisations in Nottinghamshire will try to protect and improve biodiversity. The plan identifies the species and habitats that are important.

Main habitats in Rushcliffe

- Wetlands
- Native woodlands
- Species rich grassland
- Rivers and streams
- Standing waters
- Urban and post-industrial habitats
- Farmland
- Canals

Main species in Rushcliffe

- Bats
- Water voles
- Harvest mice
- Otters
- Barn owls
- Lapwings
- Grass snakes
- Slow worms
- Great crested newts
- Trent salmons
- Dingy & grizzled skipper butterflies
- Bluebells
- Black poplars



Special Sites

Rushcliffe is home to eight nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). There are around 200 Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), which are of countywide importance.

The main sites with public access are shown on the map overleaf.

The Borough of Rushcliffe

Map showing approximate locations of nature sites in Rushcliffe



1 BINGHAM LINEAR WALK
(SK705389)

A 2½ km disused railway track that has been taken over by wildlife. Woodland and grassland habitats can be found supporting wildflowers and butterflies. The main entrance is on Nottingham Road, Bingham. Owned and managed by Bingham Town Council.





Developed on part of the old colliery, includes planted woodlands, grasslands ponds and a restored section of the Grantham Canal. Owned by Nottinghamshire County Council.



2 BUNNY OLD WOOD (SK579283)
An ancient deciduous woodland with animal and flower interest. Managed by Notts Wildlife Trust.



3 COLLINGTON COMMON (SK577365)
An area of amenity grassland converted to a wildflower meadow. Owned by Rushcliffe Borough Council.



4 COTGRAVE COUNTRY PARK (SK648365)

5 DEWBERRY HILL (SK653388)
Heath and wood, in an open space above Radcliffe-on-Trent. Access is by the public footpath surrounding the site. Managed by Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council.

6 GOTHAM NATURE RESERVE (SK532308)
Flower rich pasture and scrub. Access is from the track next to the Gotham British Legion Club. Managed by Gotham Parish Council.

7 GOTHAM RAILWAY WALK
(SK533303)

The disused gypsum mine railway has now become a delightful walkway maintained and owned by Gotham Parish Council.



8 GRANTHAM CANAL (SK611369)

This disused canal runs from the River Trent near Lady Bay Bridge through to Grantham. Most of the canal has had the towpath restored and can be walked or cycled along. Many parts are important for a wide range of wildlife.



9 GRESHAM MARSH (SK574373)

An area of pasture and marshland owned by the Environment Agency off Wilford Lane. Parking may be available at Gresham Sports Pavilion or on Gresham Park Road.



10 HOLME PIERREPONT COUNTRY PARK (SK609387)

A 270-acre country park, dominated by a watersports lake, but surrounded by areas of woodland, small pools and grassland. Part of the National Water Sports Centre.



11 KEYWORTH MEADOW (SK613290)

A grassland and wetland site with good flowers and wildlife. Access is off Lings Lane. Owned by Keyworth Parish Council.

12 LANGAR VILLAGE POND (SK724345)

A traditional village pond adjacent to the Unicorns Head Public House.



13 LARGE GREEN and LITTLE GREEN, Car Colston (SK718426)

Areas of traditional common land within the village. Access is via roads and public footpaths.

14 LILY PONDS, Radcliffe-on-Trent (SK648402)

An area of ponds and meadow below the river cliffs.

15 MANOR FARM ANIMAL CENTRE & DONKEY SANCTUARY, East Leake (SK559256)

Nearly 100 acres of farmland including wild flower meadow, lake, reed beds, woodland and willow coppice. There is a charge for entry. Phone 01509 852525 for details.



16 MEADOW PARK, East Leake (SK551266)

A pasture and meadow bordering Kingston Brook.



17 NATURESCAPE VISITOR CENTRE Langar (SK731341)

44 acres of commercial wildflower beds, hedgerows, demonstration gardens, meadows, pond and marsh and wildflower sales.



18 ORSTON MILLENIUM GREEN, Orston (SK764410)

Meadows, woodland and streamside.

19 RADCLIFFE-ON-TRENT RIVER CLIFFS (SK648400)

A walk following the top of the river cliffs. Mostly tarmac and flat. Access from Rockley Memorial Park, Park Road, Radcliffe-on-Trent.



20 RUSHCLIFFE COUNTRY PARK, Ruddington (SK574 322)

Created by redevelopment of the Ruddington Ordnance Depot. It contains areas of woodland, grassland and

wildflowers, plus a small lake, visitor centre, toilets and children's play area and other activities. Refreshments available at peak times. Owned by Rushcliffe Borough Council.



21 SHARPHILL WOOD, Edwalton (SK586349)

A mature mixed deciduous woodland with plant and wildlife interest. The site can be accessed from public footpaths from Landmere Lane, Peveril Drive and Old Lane, adjacent to Wilford Cemetery. Owned by Rushcliffe Borough Council.

22 SHELDON FIELD (SK686372)

Off Main Street, Cropwell Butler – sports field surrounded by a large area of grassland and woodland habitat.

23 SKYLARKS NATURE RESERVE, Holme Pierrepont (SK619390)

A complex of former gravel pits that have been transformed into an attractive reserve with much to see year round. A wetland site with a good range of plants and birds and other wetland species. Owned by Notts Wildlife Trust.



24 SPRINGDALE WOOD East Bridgford (SK699427)

A new native woodland planted on farmland in 1999, off Springdale Lane. Managed by Friends of Springdale Wood.

25 SUTTON BONINGTON DIAMOND WOOD (SK499242)

71 acres of new woodland planted for Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee.

26 SUTTON BONINGTON MEADOW AND SPINNEY (SK500248)

A 10 acre site containing grassland, woodland, a dyke and a pond. Ridge and Furrow is also prominent. Adjacent to the

River Soar. Owned by Sutton Bonington Parish Council.



27 THE HOOK / TRENT FIELD, Ladybay (SK593386)

Meadow and recreational area alongside River Trent. Owned by Rushcliffe Borough Council.



28 THE GREEN LINE, West Bridgford (SK587364)

An attractive stretch of urban disused railway, vegetated by scrub and grassland. From Boundary Road to Melton Road. Owned by Rushcliffe Borough Council.

29 UPPER SAXONDALE COMMUNITY NATURE RESERVE (SK699388)

An area of woodland and wildflower meadow. Owned by Upper Saxondale Resident Association.

30 WILFORD CLAYPIT SSSI (SK568356)

Disused clay-pit which has developed into important base-rich grassland, scrub and marsh communities. Managed by Notts Wildlife Trust.

31 WILLOUGHBY WOOD (SK643254)

6 acres of young woodland near Willoughby on the Wolds, part of the Woodland Trust's 'Woods on your Doorstep' scheme. Owned by the Woodland Trust.

32 WILWELL FARM CUTTING SSSI (SK568352)

A site between Ruddington and Wilford incorporating woodland, scrub and some of the best neutral grassland and marsh remaining in Nottinghamshire. Managed by Notts Wildlife Trust.

Visiting Nature Sites

When visiting sites, please follow the country code:

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home.
- Keep dogs under close control.
- Consider other people.



Walking can help to provide a healthy lifestyle, but please remember to wear appropriate clothing and footwear and make sure you know where you are going.

Where you can, please use public transport to get to sites. For more information visit: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/travelling/travel/buses/planyourjourney

The Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy

The Strategy shows how nature conservation organisations, including Rushcliffe Borough Council, and Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust will protect and enhance Rushcliffe's wildlife for future generations. Find the strategy at www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/naturestrategy



For further information please contact:



Paul Phillips, Environmental Sustainability Officer,
Rushcliffe Borough Council, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5FE
0115 914 8595

environmentalissues@rushcliffe.gov.uk
www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/greenspaces



Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
Old Ragged School, Brook Street, Nottingham, NG1 1EA
0115 958 8242

info@nottswt.co.uk
www.nottinghamshirewildlife.org