

LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY TOOLKIT

The toolkit, provided by Natural Cambridgeshire, offers guidance, advice and support for creating a Nature Recovery Plan and helps to identify skills and resources required to deliver and manage newly created and existing habitats.

Full document: [Doubling-Nature Local-nature-recovery-toolkit.pdf \(naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk\)](https://www.naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk/Doubling-Nature-Local-nature-recovery-toolkit.pdf)

We want to offer the opportunity for everyone who visits, lives and works in Cambridgeshire to enjoy happier and healthier lifestyles. With the ambition to 'Double Nature' across the region, the Local Nature Recovery Toolkit has been designed to implement a significant long-term enhancement of nature through the establishment of a thriving environment. The nature recovery areas will be incorporated into local policy documents including Local Plans.

NATURE RECOVERY TOOLKIT – AIMS AND AMBITIONS

A Nature Recovery Plan should set out a medium-term plan for the provision of nature-rich habitats in our towns, villages, cities and the surrounding countryside. Residents play an important role in the vision and delivery – both as individuals through garden management (Inc. landholdings) and as communities through the creation and delivery of Nature Recovery Plans.



KEY WILDLIFE SITES AND THEIR BENEFITS

- * **Gardens and Allotments** provide safe refuges for wildlife and play a key role in connecting habitats, especially across urban areas.
- * **Churches and their Grounds** are rich with lichens and mosses, roofs and mature trees can be ideal places for roosting bats and the grounds may contain remnants of ancient grassland.
- * **Woodlands** are havens for wildlife and can be used as a tool in addressing climate challenges.
- * **Mature Trees** can host specific interrelationships between insects, small mammals and birds.
- * **Hedgerows and Waterways** are historical and cultural features that are vital corridors across the landscape allowing wildlife to move around as conditions change.
- * **Farmland** is an important cyclic habitat complemented by the adjacent diverse environments.
- * **Orchards** were once widespread across Cambridgeshire where many new fruit varieties were developed. Remaining orchards are a lasting reminder of this heritage and host of wealth of species, some reliant on orchards.
- * **Water Bodies** support a great range of wildlife in the areas created by fringe, floating and submerged vegetation.
- * **Grasslands** whether in gardens or ancient meadows, bring great benefits to wildlife from tiny invertebrates to larger predators.
- * **Interacting with nature** is key for our health and wellbeing. The network of footpaths and provision of greenspaces and nature reserves enables people to engage directly with the natural environment. School grounds also play a role in introducing children to nature and fostering an interest early on.

CREATING A NATURE RECOVERY PLAN



Community nature recovery plans are to be developed by local people, to meet their local aspirations and reflect the nature that inspires them. Ideally, each plan shall be agreed and formally endorsed by the parish or local council, cover an initial ten-year period and have clear outcomes. This ensures that local people can take interest and pride creating and maintaining habitats. Each nature recovery plan will reflect the geography and geology of each location and the varying ambitions and objectives expressed.