Glasgow Wildlife Garden Festival 2018
www.glasgowwildfest.org
Community pack

Working together to give nature a home
About Glasgow Wildlife
Garden Festival 2018

This year, RSPB Scotland and Glasgow City Council are teaming up with partners, organisations and community gardens across the city to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Glasgow Garden Festival. We will be celebrating with a range of events from 12 May - 3 June, all themed around wildlife and the environment, in green spaces across Glasgow.

This festival is a continuation of Glasgow Wildfest, which has been running since 2014. In that time, 40 groups have helped to host a huge variety of events, from art installations; wildlife themed walks; canoe trips; and citizen science activities. These events have run in venues such as community gardens, stalled spaces, back courts, church yards, schools grounds, parks and rivers. This year, we are looking for even more groups, businesses and organisations to get involved and help us celebrate 30 years by running green-themed events.

www.glasgowwildfest.org

Festival hubs

Each weekend of the festival will be focussed on a different area of Glasgow:

East 12-13 May
South 26-27 May

West 19-20 May
North 2-3 June

We would like to encourage participants to hold events on these weekends to help venues link up, and concentrate publicity. This will mean that smaller sites, like churches, school and allotments, can get together, co-ordinate activities, and hopefully, bring their whole community together for nature!

If you’re already hosting or planning events for these weekends, that’s great! They can become part of the festival. If not, can you think of a way you could get involved? What’s already happening in your community that you could link to?

Here are some of the events that are planned already:

• 27 and 28 May Glasgow Science Centre and Festival Park Bioblitz
• 13 May Hogganfield Park LNR Birthday
• 12 and 13 May Glasgow Barras wildflower festival
Promoting your event

RSPB Scotland and Glasgow City Council will be promoting the 2018 Glasgow Wildlife Garden Festival in the press, through social media, and with general advertising. We’ll also help you as much as possible with promoting individual events.

Please send all the details about your event including a description, contact details etc to gnahg@rspb.org.uk. The deadline for this is: 29th March 2018. If we receive your information in time, we’ll include your event in our festival leaflet (widely distributed.) We’ll also list it on the RSPB website, and include it with information sent out to listings websites, such as What’s On Glasgow, the List, and Visit Scotland. If you can’t make this date, but get the information to us by 30 April, we’ll include your event on the RSPB website, and send it out to listings websites.

Social media

Whether you’ve sent in your information or not, it’s still great to promote your event on social media! You may already have a Facebook or Twitter account. If so, remember to post about your event several times in the run up to the date. It would be great if you could also mention the festival, and promote other events running nearby. If everyone does this, all the events will get lots of great publicity!

When talking about the festival, try to remember to use the hashtag #Glasgowwildfest. We’ve been using this for several years now, and it’s a great way for people using social media to find out more about the festival. We’ll also search for the tag, and retweet any posts we find using it, so it’s really important to include it.

If you want a retweet for anything, you can also tag us: @RSPBGlasgow and @GlasgowCC

As well as general publicity, it’s really important to promote your event locally. we will email you a poster template that you can use. Put it up as widely as possible, including at other venues hosting festival events!

We can also provide you with vinyl banners to put up on railings outside your venue to help draw attention to your event. Why not take a selfie with the banner and put it on Twitter!
Event ideas

Environmental

- **Host a bioblitz!** [http://citynaturechallenge.org](http://citynaturechallenge.org) look for and record wildlife in your area.
- **Conservation day** - getting the community/schools involved in cleaning up an area or doing a litter pick.
- **Make a home for nature**, look in our pack for different homes you can make as part of an event.
- **Den building** and **natural play workshops**
- **Wildflower seed bomb** making with native annuals wildflower seeds.

Artistic

- **Music** - can you get a local band or community choir to perform in a green space?
- **Dance** - can you get a local dance group to perform at their site.
- **Art** - can you improve a green space with some temporary art in chalk etc?

Health and Safety

**Bio Security**

**Arrive clean, leave clean!**

- Ensure that any footwear and outer clothing (e.g. over trousers) are free of accumulated vegetative matter (including leaf litter) and excess mud/soil. Boots can be easily washed off in a puddle or wiped on nearby vegetation.
- Ensure that any equipment and machinery being used is clean and free of excess mud and vegetative material. Wherever possible try and leave excess mud and vegetative fragments at their place of origin.

**Check, Clean, Dry!**

- Be vigilant in aquatic situations. All equipment (e.g. nets, sampling containers) and clothing (e.g. waders) that have made contact with the water should be checked and cleaned of any vegetative material with, excess mud and aquatic organisms. It should be washed with water over 40°C. This is especially important if you are travelling between water bodies. Pay particular attention to seams which may retain debris and associated organisms for longer periods of time. Some invasive aquatic organisms can persist for up to 15 days in damp conditions and 2 days in dry conditions so it is important to ensure, where practical, that all such equipment/clothing is thoroughly dried between visits.
- Be particularly vigilant around pond-dipping areas. Such places can form focal points for the arrival of unwanted species through the dumping of aquarium and pond material by the general public. Ensure anyone participating in pond-dipping activities (including the public) is aware of the need for biosecurity measures. It could be used to raise public awareness about the dangers of dumping pond or aquarium contents into the wider countryside.
A-Z of fundraising ideas

It would be fantastic if you were able to fundraise at your events for your community and also for the RSPB. Below are some ideas you can use at events to raise money.

So what could YOU do? Here are some ideas to get you started:

Apple bobbing, auction, autograph sale or art exhibition
Back to school night, barn dance, barbecue, beard growing and shaving, sitting in a bath of beans, bridge tournament, bring and buy sale, or anything to do with birds. Bake for Nature https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/bake-for-nature/
Cake sale, car washing, children’s sponsored events, Christmas robin raffle, coach trips, coffee break, concert, cricket match, croquet competition, craft fair or cycle ride
Darts tournament, dance competition, dawn chorus walk, dog walking, drawing competition or a dress-down day
Egg decorating competition, expert talk or exercise classes
Fancy dress day, fantasy football, fashion show, fête, film show, flower festivals, football match or fun-run
Garden party, golf competition, guess the weight of a bird or guided walk – and don’t forget to Gift Aid it!
Half marathon, Halloween party, or hockey match
Ice skating, indoor bowls, or inter-office challenge
Jumble sale, juggling or joke telling
Karaoke or a keep fit challenge
Loud shirt/tie day or ladies’ pamper night
Marathon, mastermind quiz, murder mystery night or mowing lawns
No smoking day or non-uniform day
Open gardens or Olympic challenges
Pantomime, plant sale, playing a penny mile, ping-pong or a poker night
Quiz night
Raffle, recruit members, rock ‘n’ roll dance or rugby match
Scrabble competition, sponsored anything, slimming, speed-dating, salsa dancing, squash tournament, street collections, swear box or swimming
Talent show, team events, tennis competition, tombola, treasure hunt or tug-of-war
Unwanted gift sale or university challenge
Variety show, virtual challenge or volleyball competition
Wine tasting, sponsored walk, a wildlife “whip-round” or white elephant sale
X-Factor style competition
Yo-yo competition or sponsored yoga session
Zany ideas are always a hit!

Be imaginative, have fun, give it your all! Please remember that the RSPB is an environmental organisation. We take the issue of climate change and damage to the environment seriously and would prefer it if you didn’t jump out of a plane, organise a car treasure hunt or do anything likely to affect birds during the nesting season. If you’re interested in fundraising for the RSPB, please ask us to collect any donations from you; or drop off donations at the RSPB South and West Regional Office (10 Park Quadrant, Glasgow, G3 6BS). Labelled with GNAH Glasgow Donations.
As I'm sure most of you know, risk assessments are really important prior to an event, and for working on a site in general to keep everyone safe. This is an example of an RSPB risk assessment, please do your own for your site and activities and send them to us prior to your event.

### Risk assessments - example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 1</th>
<th>Activity/Role: Wildfest Activities</th>
<th>Location/Dept: EXAMPLE ADDRESS</th>
<th>OS Grid Ref NS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of assessment</td>
<td>Date for revision</td>
<td>Other related assessments?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazards/hazardous events</td>
<td>Who is affected</td>
<td>Typical outcome</td>
<td>Current control measures in place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working with hand tools</td>
<td>Staff/volunteers</td>
<td>Splinters, cuts, abrasions, muscle strains</td>
<td>Wear protective gloves, rotate activities to use different muscle groups, take regular breaks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working outdoors</td>
<td>Staff/volunteers</td>
<td>Risk of sunburn, sunstroke, hypothermia etc</td>
<td>Staff and volunteers briefed to wear suitable clothing, waterproofs and stout footwear, use sunblock and carry drinking water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeding and planting</td>
<td>Staff/Volunteers</td>
<td>Manual handling strains, back strain</td>
<td>Ensure participants are aware of potential strains and injuries they may incur, provide kneeling mats, rotate jobs to ensure use of different muscle groups, take regular breaks, don’t stay in the same position for too long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting people not known</td>
<td>Staff/volunteer</td>
<td>Verbal abuse, threat of attack</td>
<td>Leaders provided with mobile phones. Avoid confrontation where possible. Participants remain within sight of the conservation work group and do not go off alone to carry out work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact with biological agents</td>
<td>Staff/volunteers</td>
<td>Poisonous thorny plants/fungi, Phytophthora dermatitis, Contact with animal waste</td>
<td>Warn participants of possible presence of these agents. Advise to wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants becoming separated from group</td>
<td>Staff/volunteers</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Advise leaders if you are departing from the conservation work party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact with sharps (discarded needles etc – risk of blood borne disease, tetanus, infection etc.)</td>
<td>Staff/volunteers</td>
<td>Cuts/abrasions/puncture wounds, Hepatitis and blood borne infections</td>
<td>Avoid any sharp objects and inform participants not to pick up any litter from the ground. Wear protective gloves when digging/moving leaf litter etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working close to the edge of a shallow pond</td>
<td>Staff/volunteers/children</td>
<td>Falling/slipping in water, drowning</td>
<td>Ensure participants are aware of the hazard and only work in areas where the pond edge is well defined and not slippery/muddy. Ensure participants are within sight of others and do not work alone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact with Dogs</td>
<td>Staff/volunteers</td>
<td>Risk of bites and scratches</td>
<td>Dogs are not approached</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A child getting lost during the nature walk</td>
<td>Lost child, all supervising staff</td>
<td>Child could be distressed, injured or abducted</td>
<td>The group is organised before commencing the nature walk so that there is always an adult at the back, children walk in pairs when asked and head counts are undertaken frequently. There is a lost child procedure which teachers will be made aware of in their booking confirmation pack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guided handling of objects from nature</td>
<td>Children, all supervising staff</td>
<td>Disease contraction from dirty objects</td>
<td>RSPB worker will select or assess objects for handling and warn children not to put their hands in their mouths. All participants are informed to wash their hands at the end and wet wipes/hand gel are available during the session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifting and carry – display equipment, loading car or van with display items</td>
<td>All attending workers</td>
<td>Muscle strain, trips, falls, cuts and bruises</td>
<td>Training on correct methods of lifting. Heavy items slid to rear of vehicle before removing. Provision of trolley or similar aid to for movement of materials to display site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erection and use of Marquees, gazebos and other shelters</td>
<td>Workers and public</td>
<td>Crush injuries, muscle strains, cuts, tripping over guy ropes/peg</td>
<td>RSPB advisory note 17 Use of Marquees followed when using marquees. Minimum of 2 people to erect marquee. Weather conditions checked prior</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evaluation
Recording Form

Glasgow Wildfest
Engagement Recording Sheet

“As long as I live, I’ll hear waterfalls and birds and winds sing. I’ll interpret the rocks, learn the language of flood, storm, and the avalanche. I’ll acquaint myself with the glaciers and wild gardens, and get as near the heart of the world as I can”.

John Muir

Connecting Children to nature is one of our biggest aims it is so important that the next generation know and love nature, for nature and for their own wellbeing. Please let us know if you have engaged with anyone over the course of the festival.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Type of activity</th>
<th>How long did the activity last</th>
<th>Was this inside or outside?</th>
<th>Number of Adults</th>
<th>Number of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Any comments about the organisation of the event

If you have not already, could you please send on any species records you collected on the day.
Make a home for nature

Pledges 1-5

Pledge to take action

1. Create a Pond

2. Plant a Wildflower Meadow

3. Build a Bug home

4. Build a Bat Box

5. Make a Log Pile

1. Pond creation- Creating a pond is a fantastic way to provide homes to a whole swathe of invertebrates and amphibians alike. Everything from water-boatman to dragonflies, frogs to palmate newts, will be catered for. Your pond can be as basic or elaborate as you want it to be.

2. Plant a wildflower meadow- Planting some vibrant native wildflowers has many a benefit for your local green-space. Along with bringing some colour to an area, they provide an excellent source of nectar for those all-important pollinators including a wide array of Bee’s, Hoverflies, Butterflies and Moths. Did you know that one third of the food we eat is completely reliant on insect pollination?

3. Bug hotels- Building a Bug hotel will provide an invaluable spot for nesting insects. They come in a variety of shapes and sizes, from smaller species specific hotels, through to larger ‘one-size fits all’ hotels. You can utilise a variety of recyclable materials in creating your hotel.

4. Bat boxes- All our native bats are insect eating microbats and fantastically adept aerial hunters. They are yet another unfortunate casualty to the over development of urban area’s, with many old roosts being disturbed. Something as simple as putting a bat box on a mature tree within an area rich in flying insects, can really stack the deck in their favour.

5. Log-pile-Make use of Dead-wood! Piled, slowly decaying dead wood creates the perfect habitat for ground living beetles and other invertebrates. Giving a home to important garden allies, like the Devil’s Coach-Horse beetle (a known slug-hunter!) as well as other important predatory invertebrates like centipedes.
Make a home for nature

Pledges 6-10

Pledge to take action

6. Leave a Wild Area

7. Put up a Nest Box

8. Hedgehog Highways & Hogitats

9. Plant a Hedge row

10. Go Peat Free

6. Wild Area- Dare to be lazy! Quite often, the best thing to do for wildlife is to leave your green-space wild, so pack away the lawn-mower, put your feet up and let the grass grow! This doesn’t need to be done with your whole garden of course. Just leaving a small unused corner or fringe to grow wild will create a small biodiversity hotspot. Give an opportunity for wildflowers in the seed-bed to come through and hibernating insects within the leaf litter to come back and complete their life-cycle.

7. Nest Boxes- Nest Boxes come in all shapes and sizes; from small boxes ideal for small garden visitors such as blue tits and chaffinches, to larger boxes ideal for owls and kestrels. House sparrows nest in loose colonies, so choosing 2 or 3 boxes placed within the same area will create a house sparrow terrace, ideal for a species which has endured a hard time of it in our recent past.

8. Hedgehog Highways- Hedgehogs! They tackle a variety of invertebrates including potential pests like slugs and snails. Unfortunately they don’t make it to most gardens thanks to the high fences separating many, so why not spend 5 minutes to cut a small doorway at the bottom of your fence and create a hedgehog highway. They have a tendency to roam and this will allow them to do so, seeking out new feeding grounds and mates alike. You can also build a hedgehog home or ‘Hogitat’.

9. Hedge Planting- Putting in a hedge row will provide an aesthetically pleasing natural boundary to your garden/green-space as well as providing an excellent source of food and protective shelter for wildlife. Planting native mixed hedges using the likes of hawthorn and climbers like honeysuckle are perfect.

10. Go Peat Free- Using Peat free soils and composts will help to protect our amazing blanket bogs from further cutting. Insects within these habitats are an essential dietary component for upland birds such as golden plover.
Top Tips for Saving the Planet

Waste Reduction
• Brush your teeth with bamboo! Bamboo toothbrushes are cheap, pretty and biodegradable!
• Carry cutlery like a spork!
• Bring a bag!
• Keep your cup!
• Bring a bottle!
• Cook from scratch, buy in bulk and use Tupperware to take meals with you!

Transport
• Walk
• Cycle
• Public transport.

Food
• Food that is in season.
• Unprocessed ingredients.
• Organic if possible
AVOID:
• Food with lots of air miles; choose local products.
• Fish from the Marine Stewardship Council’s ‘fish to avoid’ list available at (www.msc.org).
• Cheap meat.
• Eggs from caged hens.
• Palm oil and other foods that contribute to deforestation.

Cleaning
• Avoid products with Palm oil
• Avoid cleaning and beauty products with micro beads or micro plastic.
• Try to choose brands with less chemicals like Ecover
Recording

It is important to record species over time so you can see what is doing well or badly over time, especially to improve species diversity through conservation work. In the State of Nature Report, a collaborative report formulated by wildlife conservation partners to give an idea of how British wildlife was fairing in terms of declines, it had a very positive outlook on the importance of voluntary biological recording, stated that; The contribution of voluntary and amateur recording to our understanding of UK wildlife populations and distributions is now world leading and its significance vitally important to national monitoring and conservation efforts (Burns et al. 2013).

You can use our Bioblitz pack for ID sheets of common species in Glasgow and a recording sheet. You can send these records to the local biological record centre or submit them on irecord.

We also have an irecord account set up for the event. :-http://www.brc.ac.uk/irecord/
1) Sign on to iRecord
2) Select Record >> Activities
3) Select Browse all activities
4) Type Glasgow Wild Fest in the Search For box and press GO
5) Add Glasgow Wild Fest to your activities by clicking on the STAR symbol

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Record Number</th>
<th>Name of species Found</th>
<th>Where?</th>
<th>When?</th>
<th>Did you identify it or did someone else (Give names)</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Example 1</td>
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Please return records for:  
info@records@nationaltrust.org.uk  
Ireland: records@nationaltrust.org.uk  
Scotland: records@nationaltrust.org.uk  
Northern Ireland: records@nationaltrust.org.uk  

Glasgow Museums Resource Centre  
269 Woodhead Road  
Southside Industrial Estate  
Glasgow

Important. By entering this form to record views for the RSPB and Glasgow Where Nest Biological Recording, you give us permission to use your views to help spot trends in the lives of birds and other wildlife. Your views will not be published online. They will be used to help the RSPB, RSPB, RSPB and Glasgow Where Nest Biological Recording to raise awareness about nature at both local and national level.

Working together to give Nature a home

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity: England and Wales no.: 207605, Scotland no.: SC037604
Thank you and keep in touch!

Keep up the good work and keep in touch with RSPB through the year!

Schools and children
Check out our Wild Challenge for resources and activities to download and use outdoors and contribute to awards. We can also visit primary schools in Glasgow for free, check out the link to see the workshops and book a session.
https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-families/family-wild-challenge/

Fundraising
We would be extremely grateful if you could continue to fundraise for use throughout the year. You could also register as a pin badge volunteer and host a pin badge box in your site or a local business.

Volunteering
You can volunteer with the RSPB with our project in Glasgow or even be a residential volunteer on one of our amazing reserves.
https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering-fundraising/volunteer/

Citizen Science
Big Garden Birdwatch
https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/
Recording on your Site
Glasgow House Sparrow Project

Thank you and good luck with the festival from all of us at RSPB Glasgow!