

# Your Gateway to a Living Landscape...

SURREY  
*wildlife*  
TRUST 



how  
you can help us  
piece together  
Surrey's Living  
Landscape

# What is a Living Landscape...

A **Living Landscape** is a place where people and wildlife live comfortably alongside each other. It is a place where wildlife is not confined to a few isolated nature reserves but is able to move around amongst us. It is a place where nature thrives and we live better lives because of it.

## Working towards a Living Landscape

We need to take these things fully into account in our planning and development. Surrey's hedgerows have disappeared, miles of roads and thousands of houses have appeared and now temperatures are rising. All of which is bad news for our

countryside and the animals and plants that depend upon it.

But if we work with planners and developers, if we carefully consider the effect of everything we do, if we recognise that wildlife and nature need to be part of and not separate from our lives, we can still make a difference.

## What Surrey Wildlife Trust will do..

We manage over 7,000 hectares of Surrey's countryside. By working with our neighbours we can establish even larger areas of protected land to provide a foundation on which to base our **Living Landscape**.

Based around this we can identify other parts of the county where wildlife is still at risk, where there is little chance of expansion or movement. We will then target those areas, working with local authorities, conservation bodies and landowners, especially farmers, in order to bridge the gaps.

We will help local people to act in a unified way to improve and expand the wildlife value of their gardens and community spaces – 'gateways' into a **Living Landscape**.

## What you can do..

Everyone can play their own part in helping to achieve a Living Landscape. Every park and roadside verge, garden and window box can provide another stepping stone for wildlife, easing the way across the barriers we have created. Every nest box, bird table, garden pond or water feature further eases the journey. Each time you walk instead of drive, compost your potato peelings, every time you switch off a light as you leave a room, will help. You will see more birds and butterflies in your garden, hedgehogs in your neighbourhood again, and you will feel better both in and about yourself!

**If you need help or advice on how you can help create Surrey's very own Living Landscape, please do get in touch. Our contact details are on the reverse of this leaflet.**

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# What can I do?

## In the home...

**1** **Insulate your home** to save energy and money. Advice and grants are available to help with these improvements (see back cover).

**2** **Collect rainwater** and use your 'grey' water in the garden or to wash your car and windows. This will lower your water usage and, if metered, your water bills too.

## In the garden..

**3** Dig a **wildlife pond** to provide a home for a host of aquatic plants and animals, as well as a watering-hole for many others. Don't forget to top it up from your water butt!

**4** **Plant fruit and berry-bearing trees & shrubs** to provide food for birds and other animals. **Bird feeders** are important too, especially over the winter months when the berries have all gone.

**5** **Install nest boxes** to provide homes for breeding songbirds in the spring and summer. Bat roost boxes and insect "hotels" are also available.

**6** **Create long-grass areas, log & compost piles and nettle patches** to support far more wildlife than a neat lawn.

**7** **Compost** your leftover uncooked food and other green waste for use as a substitute for peat based products in the garden. Less waste going into landfill sites benefits the environment.

**8** **Grow some of your own fruit and vegetables** to reduce your journeys to the supermarket, reduce CO2, save money and treat our tastebuds!



## And in the neighbourhood...

**9** Join or start up a **local conservation volunteer group** and improve your community spaces for wildlife. Work in partnership, perhaps with your borough or parish council, to achieve more within your local area.

**10** **Surrey Wildlife Trust** works with landowners to help them manage their land for the benefit of wildlife. Here for example, hedgerows have been planted and the watercourse restored to provide a 'wildlife corridor' through arable fields, linking the community open space with the Surrey Hills beyond.



# Further information



## Living Landscapes

### **Surrey Wildlife Trust**

[www.surreywildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.surreywildlifetrust.org.uk)  
Tel. 01483 795440

### **The Wildlife Trusts**

[www.wildlifetrusts.org](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org)  
Tel. 01636 677711

## In the home

### **Energy Saving Trust**

[www.energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk)  
Tel. 0800 512012

### **English Heritage**

[www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk](http://www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk)  
Tel. 01483 252000

### **Environment Agency**

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/  
homeandleisure/climatechange](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/climatechange)  
Tel. 08708 506506

## Wildlife gardening

### **Wild About Gardens**

[www.wildaboutgardens.org](http://www.wildaboutgardens.org)  
Email: [contactus@wildaboutgardens.org.uk](mailto:contactus@wildaboutgardens.org.uk)

### **Big Wildlife Garden**

[www.bwg.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.bwg.naturalengland.org.uk)  
Tel. 0845 600 3078 / 01273 407956



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