

## Newcastle Great Park Wildlife Survey

We are keen to learn more about wildlife within gardens across Newcastle Great Park. This will help give us an idea about which species are regular visitors and how this compares to wildlife sightings in the wider area. We will use the results to inform the Biodiversity Action Plan for Newcastle Great Park and ongoing measures to monitor and support wildlife within the area. We would be grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete and return the questionnaire below.

How many different species of bird do you regularly see in your garden?

- 4 or fewer       5-9       10-14       15+

Which of the following bird species have you seen?

- Blackbird       Dunnock       House sparrow       Starling  
 Jackdaw       Crow       Magpie       Wren  
 Robin       Wood pigeon       Goldfinch       Blue tit  
 Coal tit       Great tit       Bullfinch       Collared dove  
 Other (please specify, if possible):

**The Big Garden Bird Watch is a three-day event organised by the RSPB. It takes place in January each year and simply requires that you watch the birds in your garden or somewhere nearby for an hour and report the findings through the RSPB website. This provides important information and allows the RSPB to build a national picture of bird populations and trends.**

Are there any bird boxes on your property?

- Yes, provided by developer       Yes, put up by you       No

If yes, are you aware of any of the bird boxes being used?

- Yes       No

Are there any bat boxes on your property?

- Yes, provided by developer       Yes, put up by you       No

If yes, are you aware of any of the bat boxes being used?

- Yes       No

Which of the following mammal species have you seen in your garden?

- Red squirrel       Grey squirrel       Hedgehog       Fox  
 Bats       Other (please specify, if possible):

Are you aware that red squirrels are now a UK endangered species?

- Yes  No

**The presence of grey squirrels can result in the loss of red squirrels within an area due to competition for resources and the spread of the squirrel pox virus. If you see red or grey squirrels in your garden or within the wider area, please could you report the sighting to North East Red Squirrels. Contact details can be found at [www.northeastredsquirrels.co.uk](http://www.northeastredsquirrels.co.uk).**

Have you ever encountered amphibians in your garden?

- Yes  No

If yes, which species?

- Common frog  Common toad  Great crested newt  Smooth newt  
 Newt – unknown species  Other (please specify):

Have you ever seen butterflies in your garden?

- Yes  No

If yes, which species?

- Peacock  Red admiral  Painted lady  Small tortoiseshell  
 Comma  Orange tip  Other (please specify):

**The Big Butterfly Count is a national event organised by the Butterfly Conservation Trust and is like the Big Garden Bird Watch. It takes place between July and August each year and required you to watch butterflies within an area for 15 minutes during bright, ideally sunny, weather and report your findings through the app or website. This helps provide important data on species distribution and population levels and to assist in planning how to protect butterflies in the future.**

Have you had any other species of interest visit your garden?

Do you provide any of the following to encourage wildlife into your garden?

- Bird feeders  Hedgehog house  
 Other (please specify):

Do you currently use pesticides and herbicides in your garden?

- Yes  No

Using pesticides can harm wildlife. Would you consider not using them, or using more wildlife friendly alternatives in the future?

- Yes  No

How often do you mow your lawn (excluding winter)?

- Weekly  1-2 times per month  Monthly  Fewer

Mowing less regularly can provide a food resource for bees, butterflies and other insects that are in decline by allowing wildflowers to develop. Would you consider mowing it less often to support these species?

- Yes  No

Would you be interested in learning more about what you can do in your garden to support wildlife?

- Yes  No

Would you be interested in attending a Wildlife Event in the Community Centre in the future?

- Yes  No