

Glasgow City

BIODIVERSITY

Partnership

Progress Report 2008 - 2009



Biodiversity is about the variety of life and about how we live our lives and impact upon the environment. For over seven years Glasgow City Council has been working with many partner organisations to implement Glasgow's Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP). This Progress Report summarises the key achievements for the year to March 2009.

Everyone has a part to play and can get actively involved, from hands on volunteering at a local wildlife site, watching and recording wildlife, thinking about the wider impact of our everyday activities, or by getting out and enjoying our rich natural heritage.

Getting Involved

The involvement of volunteers and members of the local community is important in helping to look after local habitats and sites and populations of plants and animals.

Achievements 2008-09:

- Good quality herb rich meadows flourishing at volunteer managed sites. In particular at Lainshaw Drive, Cathkin Braes, Haughhill and Cleddans Burn.
- British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) and Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) volunteers carried out 85 days work at 27 sites, involving a total of 686 volunteer days worked.
- Drumchapel Woodland Group were awarded 'Scotland's Finest Urban Woods' award for Garscadden Wood.
- Volunteers helped remove over 30 tonnes of fly-tipping and litter at Bishop's Estate.
- New pond created at Queen's Park Allotments by plot holders.
- Hibernacula for amphibians built by volunteers at 2 Local Nature Reserves.
- RSPB volunteers carried out wildflower seeding and management at the butterfly garden in Kelvingrove Park.



Watching and Recording

With over 4,000 species recorded in Glasgow there is a great need for survey work to monitor populations and ensure they remain viable.

Achievements 2008-09:

- Data produced through mammal recording has contributed to national surveys.
- RSPB co-ordinated swift survey on behalf of Concern For Swifts. The public were also encouraged to send in records of swifts and their nests via Glasgow City Council website with a good number of records generated.
- Breeding Bird Survey conducted at Craigend Moss and Todd's Well.
- Moth Counts event held to encourage public recording of moths.
- Odonata surveys carried out at Hogganfield Park and Robroyston Park LNRs.
- Birds and butterflies surveyed in Glasgow's parks and open spaces by volunteers participating in British Trust for Ornithology's Biodiversity in Glasgow (BIG) project.
- Fungi and grasshopper identification training days held.

Naturalisation of Auchinlea Park pond

Making a Difference

Glasgow's rich inheritance of woodlands, wetlands and grasslands are a haven for wildlife and receive protection through the City Plan and vital conservation management work from various sources.

Achievements 2008-09:

- Existing pond at Auchinlea Park has been naturalised.
- New ponds created and planted up at a number of locations, including Hogganfield Park Local Nature Reserve, Botanic Gardens and a SUDS pond at Toryglen.
- A number of locally scarce plants, including Bluebell, Burnet-saxifrage, Wood Crane's-bill and Sheep's-bit, have been cultivated at Daldowie wildflower nursery for planting out at sites around the city.
- Woodland management works carried out at 7 Local Nature Reserves.
- Over two hectares of sympathetically managed grasslands established at Cathkin Braes as part of mitigation for the Commonwealth Games mountain bike route.
- Part of Commonhead Moss was declared a Local Nature Reserve.
- Hedgerow planting undertaken at 3 Local Nature Reserves along with planting and diversification of hedgerows at Windlaw and Carnbooth farms.
- Two meadow demonstration projects established at Trinley Brae and Hogganfield Park LNR and 25 smaller scale plots received meadow management at other parks and open spaces.
- Artificially created meadow at Glasgow Museum Resource Centre proves a valuable demonstration of low cost, low maintenance grassland management for other greenspaces.



Young Springwatch volunteer



Azure damselfly



Wood Crane's-bill



Awareness

The provision of information and education events helps us to understand the importance of wildlife but also the impact of our daily actions. An extensive range of events, projects and media have been used to reach out to schools, local communities and the wider public.

Achievements 2008-09:

International Biodiversity Day event held at Kelvingrove Park where 350 school children created a wildflower meadow.

BBC Springwatch event held at Hogganfield Park LNR with 2000 people attending.

Guided walk for local primary schools through Garscadden Wood LNR led by Drumchapel Woodland Group.

Castlemilk Environment Trust launched their 'Map Pack' which contains biodiversity information on the area.

Publicity launch attended by councillors and local school children to mark the completion of the entrance walls at Robroyston Park LNR.

Cycle and walking path at Robroyston LNR completed encouraging local access to LNR.

Two new issues of Glasgow's Biodiversity News published.

New leaflets produced on Garscadden Wood LNR and Cathkin Braes.

New Glasgow Biodiversity Partnership leaflet produced.

Interpretation boards for the pond and bog garden at Provanhall produced.

For further information on the achievements within this summary or for further news of the LBAP process, please contact the Biodiversity Officers, Carol MacLean, Cath Scott and Keith Watson at the address below:

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Further information is also available from the website: www.glasgow.gov.uk/biodiversity

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