

Kingston Wildlife Gardening Forum

Vision: A network of gardens that encourage wildlife and supports biodiversity.

Aims: Encourage and support everyone in Kingston to garden with wildlife in mind • Share ideas • Signpost gardeners to useful information.



Things you can do

- **Only cut hedges and trees between September and February** Leave berries until after winter to feed birds.

Links: [RSPB information on hedges](#) [Woodland Trust when to trim hedges](#)

- **Cut lawns less often** and leave some areas of grass to grow longer to support butterflies, bees and other insects.

Links: [Natural History Museum How to grow a lawn that is better for wildlife](#)

- **Go chemical free** and use seaweed fertiliser or your own compost. Encourage slow worms, hedgehogs, toads, song thrush and ladybirds to manage pests.

Links: [Wildlife Trusts Chemicals free organic gardening](#)

- **Create a compost heap and also log and stick piles**, the beetles and worms they attract help with decomposition and are food for hedgehogs and slow worms.

Links: [Suffolk Wildlife Trust Composting in your garden](#) [Wildlife Trusts How to make a log shelter](#)

- **Ensure your fences have gaps** to create hedgehog highways.

Links: [Hedgehog Street Where hedgehogs live](#)

- **Provide some water in your garden** perhaps a bird bath, a bee bath, or a pond.

Links: [Wildlife Trusts How to provide water for wildlife](#)

- **Create mini-habitats and micro-climates** such as a rockery with stones or bricks provides hiding places for toads and lizards or a bug hotel.

Links: [Lakeside School Microhabitats and minibeasts](#) [Woodland Trust How to build a bug hotel](#)

- **Love your ivy**, it's a great source of nectar and pollen from September to November; allow it to mature and flower.

Links: [Woodland Trust Value of Ivy](#)

To show your support for this initiative you can print out and display this A5 leaflet ([LINK to orchid leaflet](#)) in your window.

To be kept informed about the Kingston Wildlife Forum and future events please email knrg@kingston-pc.gov.uk with subject "keep me posted"

The Wildlife Gardening Forum is a volunteer group and part of the Kingston Parish Council's Nature Recovery Group.

<https://kingston-pc.org.uk/nature-recovery-in-kingston/>

