



Harlow Conservation Volunteers

c/o Parndon Wood Nature Reserve, Parndon Wood Road, HARLOW, Essex CM19 4SF

Enquiries: Andrew 01279 434322

email: hcv@harlowwildlife.org.uk

web: <http://www.harlowwildlife.org.uk/hcv/hcvindex.htm>

TASK PROGRAMME Spring – Summer 2024

Date	Location	Work/ Activity
Sun 14 April	Terlings Wood	Tidy up wood piles in preparation for later removal of Himalayan balsam (non-native invasive species) (Hb) (3)
Sun 21 April	Terlings Wood	Tidy up wood piles for Hb removal (4)
Sun 28 April	Terlings Wood	Tidy up wood piles for Hb removal (5)
Sun 5 May	Marshgate Spring	Tidy fallen trees, logs, and branches for rubbish clearance
Sat 11 May	Day out to “Weird & Wonderful Wood”, Haughley Park, Suffolk	
Sun 12 May	Stort Valley Meadows	Picnic bench installation; Hb pulling (1)
Sun 19 May		No Task
Sun 26 May	Marshgate Spring	Clear paths ready for Hb removal; Hb pulling (1)
Sun 2 June	Pet’s Corner, Harlow Town Park	Wildlife Day: Stall to promote HCV, guided walks to Marshgate Spring and Stort Valley Meadows
Sun 9 June	Stort Valley Meadows	Repair bridge handrail and boardwalk; Hb pulling (2)
Sat 15 June	Marshgate Spring	Church group “service day”: Hb pulling, rubbish removal
Sun 16 June	Stort Valley Meadows	Repair boardwalk; rake grass from paths cut in meadow
Sun 23 June	Terlings Wood	Tidy up logs; Himalayan balsam removal (1)
Sun 30 June	Marshgate Spring	Himalayan balsam removal (2)
Sun 7 July	Parndon Moat Marsh	Clearing route of Boardwalk; Hb pulling (1)
Sun 14 July	Terlings Wood	Himalayan balsam removal (2)
Sun 21 July	Terlings Wood	Himalayan balsam removal (3)
Sun 28 July	Stort Valley Meadows	Meadow management; Hb cutting/pulling (3)
Sun 4 Aug	Marshgate Spring	Himalayan balsam removal (3)
Sun 11 Aug	Marshgate Spring	Pond/reed management; Himalayan balsam removal (4)
Sat 17 Aug	Harlow Museum	Community Fête: Stall to promote HCV
Sun 18 Aug	Marshgate Spring	Pond/reed management; Himalayan balsam removal (5)
Sun 25 Aug		No Task
Sun 1 Sept	Parndon Moat Marsh	Clear route of Boardwalk; moat management
Sun 8 Sept	Marshgate Spring	Pond/reed management
Sun 15 Sept	Parndon Moat Marsh	Cut back willows on edge of marsh
Sun 22 Sept	Parndon Moat Marsh	Cut back willows on edge of marsh
Sun 29 Sept	Stort Valley Meadows	Wildflower meadow: mow regrowth after hay cut (1)
Sat 5 Oct	Stort Valley Meadows	Church group: rake/collect mown grass from meadow
Sun 6 Oct	Terlings Wood	Tidy fallen trees, logs, and branches
Sun 13 Oct	Parndon Moat Marsh	Cutting/raking sedge (1); Boardwalk (1)
Sun 20 Oct	Parndon Moat Marsh	Cutting/raking sedge (2); Boardwalk (2)
Sun 27 Oct	Parndon Moat Marsh	Cutting/raking sedge (3); Boardwalk (3)
Sun 3 Nov	Parndon Moat Marsh	Cutting/raking sedge (4); Boardwalk (4)



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Additional Opportunities

**Tuesdays and Saturday mornings – Parndon Wood
(please check for dates)**

Timber preparation work for the boardwalk at Parndon Moat Marsh Andrew

Task Information

Tasks start at 10.00am. Morning only tasks finish around 1.00pm; others finish at about 3 – 3.30pm. Everybody is welcome and your help will be valued for whatever time you can spare. No previous experience is necessary. Instruction will be given in use of tools, techniques, and safe working practice.

Note: those under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for them at all times.

What to bring

You'll need strong footwear – preferably work boots (with protected toe caps) or walking boots, or wellingtons for wet sites – old (warm) clothes, and waterproofs. Sun protection is advisable (even in winter).

We provide tools and personal protective equipment (PPE), but you are welcome to bring your own loppers, bow-saws, work gloves etc. if you have them. We provide tea and coffee, drinking water, and hand-washing facilities, but please bring your own mug and packed lunch.

Health and Insurance

Insurance cover is arranged for the group on task. An up-to-date anti-Tetanus injection is strongly advised for most outdoor activities. If you think you may not be covered on this or are concerned about any other health issues, you should consult your GP.