



North Wales Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve Work Parties in NE Wales (Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham) July 2025

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with North Wales Wildlife Trust. With 35 nature reserves to manage across North Wales, there is always lots of work to be done and we would love you to come along and join us. It's a great time of year to visit our nature reserves and discover why they are such special places.

This programme lists the volunteering opportunities that are available throughout **July 2025** on our nature reserves in Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham. You can also volunteer with our NE Wales Living Landscapes Project – see below for more information.

Our work parties provide an interesting and lively mix of practical work and informal training. **Details of the locations of our nature reserves can be found on our website** www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk Please wear work clothes and stout boots/wellies and bring waterproofs and a packed lunch. We will supply work gloves & tools. We ask that you make sure your work boots or wellies are clean; biosecurity is an important part of our work - you can find out more on our website.

In summary, there is usually:

- A volunteer workday every Tuesday & Friday on one of our nature reserves in NE Wales. **Contact Carl Williams on 07946 089179 or carl.williams@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk or Paul Furnborough on 07880 033562 or Paul.furnborough@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk**
- A volunteer workday at Minera or Marford Quarry (Wrexham area) on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month. **Contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst on 07764 897416 or Jordan.Vigus-Hurst@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk**
- Opportunities to volunteer with our NE Wales Living Landscape project, near Mold. Please contact Sarah Ellis on 07494 962909 or sarah.ellis@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk for more information about the project. We will be working with Denbighshire County Council growing trees and wildflowers at their plant nursery near St Asaph, as well as working at our tree nursery near Mold.

Please note, if you wish to attend any of the volunteer workdays, you must book ahead directly with the task organiser (their contact details are listed above).

All throughout July:

Aberduna nature reserve, near Mold. Anytime between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary Survey

We'd like to have boots on the ground looking for this elusive butterfly everyday throughout the month, during its flight period, when weather conditions are suitable. We're hoping to confirm its continued presence on the reserve. Surveys will be co-ordinated between surveyors through a dedicated WhatsApp group. Survey methodology, ID guides and data portal will be available to all volunteers via the website. Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to be part of the survey team.

Tuesday 1st July

Coed y Felin, Hendre, near Mold. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the big (east) car park.

Coed y Felin is an ancient oak/ash woodland planted with sycamore, beech and sweet chestnut. The woodland has a long post-industrial heritage, and its timber has been used to support the local mining village for centuries. This peaceful woodland & sunny grassland are filled with colour & life, including the nationally rare Deptford pink and dozens of other wildflowers. **Himalayan Balsam season has begun!**

Today we will meet at the main car park and work our way downstream towards Rhydymwyn, surveying and removing balsam as we go. Please bring wellies and a stick and wear long sleeves! Please contact Carl Williams if you would like to attend.

Friday 4th July

Aberduna, Maeshafn, near Mold. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the office car park.

Aberduna is a striking 20-hectare reserve offering stunning views across the Alyn Valley to Moel Famau & the Clwydian Range. Scything season starts at Aberduna! Today we'll be scything bracken to maintain the limestone grassland, enhancing it for butterflies and other invertebrates too. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 8th July

Cors y Sarnau, Sarnau, near Bala. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in Sarnau village.

Our regular monthly visit to this reserve. A busy day with lots on offer! Activities will include strimming paths and gate maintenance, as well as monitoring vegetation, hydrology and possibly dragonflies. Something for everyone! Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Wednesday 9th July

Minera Quarry, Coedpoeth, near Wrexham. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the nature reserve car park.

Join us as we work to halt successional processes to maintain a mosaic of habitats at this former limestone quarry. Today you will have an opportunity to practice the traditional technique of scything. We will also install a new gate and cut back vegetation from footpaths. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Friday 11th July

Y Graig, near Tremeirchion, just off the B5429. 10 a.m. until 3.00 p.m. Parking is restricted – please use the layby at Ffynnon Beuno on B5429.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/v4xByrfFv4yuA3tLA>

Y Graig is a haven for wildflowers and butterflies with breath-taking views over the Vale of Clwyd & beyond. Today we will focus on bracken control – bashing and scything. We may also carefully cut back some young brambles and make sure the footpaths are all clear and open. As always here, there's a possibility of some fencing and dead hedging – lots to keep us all busy! Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 15th July

Dragonfly and Damselfly Identification Training Course

Bodfari Woodland Skills Centre, The Warren, Bodfari, Denbigh, LL16 4DT. 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Today, as part of our Nature Counts project, we will be running a Dragonfly and Damselfly Training Course. It will be a classroom session for beginners followed by a practical field survey to put our new found skills into practice (subject to the weather!). We will cover the key species which we are likely to find on our nature reserves. It will provide an excellent foundation for volunteers who would like to help us with dragonfly and damselfly surveys on our reserves. **Booking is essential and there is an expectation that people taking part on the course will then commit some time to helping us with future dragonfly and damselfly surveys.** Please contact Helen Carter-Emsell on Helen.Carter-Emsell@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk if you would like to attend.

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Tuesday 15th July

Coed y Felin, Hendre, near Mold. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the big (east) car park.

Himalayan Balsam season continues where we left off last time. We'll meet at the main car park and work our way downstream towards Rhydymwyn, surveying and removing balsam as we go. Please bring wellies, a stick and wear long sleeves! Please contact Carl Williams if you would like to attend.

Friday 18th July

Ddôl Uchaf, near Afonwen, Flintshire. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m.

Meet in the reserve car park – overspill parking is available in laybys along the Mold to Denbigh road (A541) which runs beside the reserve.

Today will be a catch-up day for various tasks! We will finish processing the branches from the demolished dam and other fallen branches, and make sure the footpaths are all open and accessible. We will also fix new leaflet dispensers at the entrances and if we get all of that done, we'll do a spot of tool maintenance. Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 22nd July

Maes Hiraddug, near Dyserth. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the lay by on Carreg Heilin Lane where it joins Pandy Lane.

Maes Hiraddug was saved from development when it was bought by the Wildlife Trust back in 1996. Since then, it has been managed as a hay meadow, continuing centuries of traditional practices. This month, as well as the regular root removal, we will also mark up the ant hills before the annual meadow cut and – if required by the grazier – we'll do a round of ragwort pulling. Please contact Carl Williams if you would like to attend.

Wednesday 23rd July

Marford Quarry, near Wrexham. Meet in the accessible car parking area off Springfield Lane (What3Words: rural.single.outcasts). 10 a.m. until 3.30p.m.

Our Minera Quarry & Marford Quarry volunteers meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of every month. Why not join them and witness the incredible power of nature as it slowly reclaims these former quarries into wildlife havens? Today we will be working at Marford Quarry – a sandy nature reserve – managing the site for its many rare invertebrate species. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Thursday 24th July

Butterfly Identification Training Course

Bryn Pydew Village Hall, Bryn Pydew, near Glanwydden LL31 9QB (What3Words: dollar.bench.rather) 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Today will be a butterfly identification training session for beginners or people wanting to refresh their id skills! We will start with a classroom session learning about the key features of approx. 30 different species of butterfly which we are likely to find on our nature reserves. This will be followed by a field survey to put our new found skills into practice. It will provide an excellent foundation for volunteers who would like to help us with butterfly surveys on our reserves. **Booking is essential and there is an expectation that people taking part on the course will then commit some time to helping us with future butterfly surveys.** Please contact Helen Carter-Emsell on Helen.Carter-Emsell@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk if you would like to attend.

Friday 25th July

Cors y Sarnau, Sarnau, near Bala. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in Sarnau village. Getting ready for the big day! Today we'll be strimming footpaths and preparing the nature reserve for the Open Day event which is taking place on Saturday 26th July. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 29th July

Coed y Felin, Hendre, near Mold. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the big (east) car park.

A day of site maintenance and access improvements. Today we will add stone to two notoriously muddy patches by the main car park and finish off the step repairs and maintenance. We will also make sure that all of the paths are open and accessible and if we get all of that done, we will continue with the bat box installation across the site. #stretchgoals! Please contact Carl Williams if you would like to attend.

We would like to thank Natural Resources Wales for supporting our conservation management work.

