



my wild garden

RECONNECTING PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE IN THEIR GARDENS



www.lancswt.org.uk/mywildcity #GMGreenCity #MyWildCity

Image by Ben Hall/2020VISION

my wild city

RECONNECTING PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE IN THEIR GARDENS

My Wild Garden is part of the wider My Wild City campaign run by The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside. The project aims to reconnect people with the wildlife in their gardens. To do this, we need to link up our green spaces and gardens to save local wildlife

www.lancswt.org.uk/mywildcity

My Wild Garden is one of a number of ground-breaking projects helping to care for and improve our natural environment, as part of the Greater Manchester 5 Year Environment Plan.

www.naturegreatermanchester.com

GREATER MANCHESTER
DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



HOW GARDENS CAN HELP CREATE A NATURE RECOVERY NETWORK

Our green spaces are helping significant numbers of people a year feel happier and healthier.

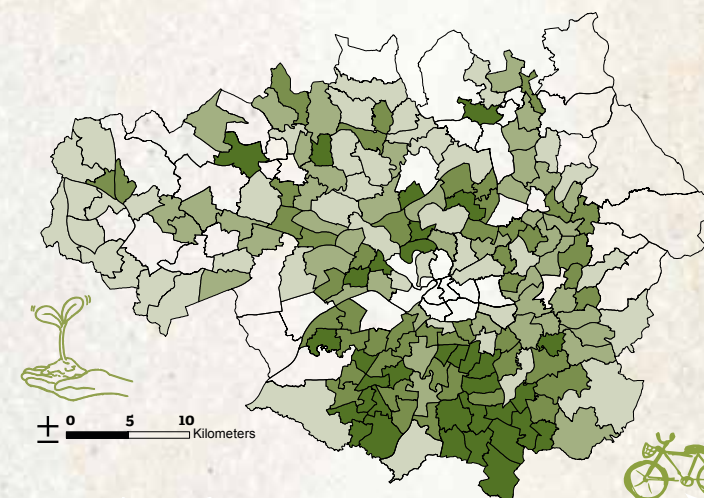
That's why we're bringing nature into our communities to make us healthier, protect us from the impacts of climate change and give us a better quality of life. However, research carried out by Manchester Metropolitan University, The University of Manchester and Salford University as part of the GHIA project found that only 55% of garden space across Greater Manchester is actually 'green'.

www.ghia.org.uk



If we have more people choosing My Wild Gardens – sowing wildflowers instead of paving their grounds and planting hedges instead of fences – not only will we be better protected against the impacts of climate change, we will also be creating a Local Nature Recovery Network. Local Nature Recovery Networks connect our gardens to wider green spaces such as parks, road verges, cemeteries and nature reserves. This enables species to adapt and brings wildlife into our lives.

Learn more about the Wildlife Trust's vision for a Nature Recovery Network – www.wildlifetrusts.org/nature-recovery-network



Percentage of ward that is GARDEN GREEN and BLUE space

0% - 7%:	Low
8% - 9%:	Below Average
10% - 14%:	Average
15% - 18%:	Above Average
19% - 45%:	High

Data from Dennis et al. (2018) (GHIA) & Baker et al. (2018) (My Back Yard) for Manchester wards. Contains OS data © Crown Copyright and Database Right 2019.

5 species

YOU CAN PLEDGE TO PROTECT

IF EVERYONE DOES ONE THING FOR WILDLIFE, TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE



We are a membership charity and we couldn't make a difference without your support. We manage and support many key conservation projects across the North West.

Join our family at www.wildlifetrusts.org/join



Images by
Martin Harvey/2020VISION,
Terry Whittaker/2020VISION,
Mark Hamblin/2020VISION and
Chris Gomersall/2020VISION

1



PIPISTRELLE BAT

Pipistrelles like cavity walls and spaces under the eaves of houses, so try not to block these off.



HOUSE SPARROW

Sparrows need a lot of insects, so try to attract them by leaving wild areas or planting caterpillar-friendly trees, such as oak, apple, birch and willow.

3



HEDGEHOG

Hedgehogs like meat-based petfood (including cat biscuits), raisins, cooked potatoes and chopped fruit. Try setting up a feeding station for them.

4



BUMBLEBEE

A full stomach of nectar will give a bee 40 minutes of flying time. Planting flowers such as lavender, crocuses, cornflower and honeysuckle can give them a boost.

5 SONG THRUSH

Providing bird food and water over the winter season will help their chicks survive.

TIP: DRIED MEALWORMS ARE THEIR FAVOURITE



Wildlife must be able to move around the landscape to forage, mate and migrate.

Climate change and rising temperatures mean creatures are extending their territories north, but pushing them to the limits in the south. While this sounds good to northerners, it often means fragmented habitat and fewer wildlife corridors - this puts species at risk.

WHICH SPECIES WILL YOU PLEDGE TO HELP PROTECT TODAY?



my wild garden

WHAT TYPE OF GARDEN DO YOU HAVE?

60%+ GREEN

WILDLIFE OASIS



SHADED GARDEN?

OR

A LOT OF LIGHT?

20%+ GREEN

WILD AT HEART



CEMENTED PATIO OR DRIVEWAY?

OR

DRIVEWAY WITH PERMEABLE SURFACE (SUCH AS RESIN)

LESS THAN 10% GREEN

URBAN CHAMPIONS



SPACE TO INSTALL A BIRD FEEDER?

OR

LIVE IN A FLAT/NO GREEN SPACE?



tips & hints

FOR A WILDER GARDEN

FIND MORE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO CREATE A WILD GARDEN AT...
LANCSWT.ORG.UK/MYWILDCITY

Leave a patch of wild in your garden. Let nettles, thistles, holly and ivy grow for butterflies to lay their eggs on.

Why not plant some wildflower seeds, or create a mini pond to give the birds a drink during hot weather?



Replacing hard surfaces with green space allows water to seep into the ground and reduce flooding. But if you can't change your driveway or patio, try planting some potted herbs.



Make your own compost tub. Local councils usually offer discounts on bins, but with a few pallets, a hammer and nails you can make your own in an afternoon.
www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-compost-your-waste



No space for a bird table? Hanging a bird feeder from your wall or fence will attract robins, tits and house sparrows. Try to place it somewhere you can watch the birds. See www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-feed-birds-your-garden for more advice.

Identify wildlife from your own home. Make sure you record your sightings and submit them to Greater Manchester Local Records Centre at gmwildlife.org.uk

greater manchester
Record
Centre



Images by Paul Harris/2020VISION

my
wild
garden

CHAMPION

THE HOUSE SPARROW
PASSER DOMESTICUS

Feeling close to nature is a lot easier when you realise that it's actually there outside your window. Your garden is part of a vitally important network, which creates habitats and links across Greater Manchester, the North West and the United Kingdom.

So, when you notice something is missing from your bird table then it might just mean that particular species is in peril.

The house sparrow is a glaring example of this. It is thought there are now 10 million fewer house sparrows in the UK than there were 25 years ago, meaning local populations are definitely affected.

CONSERVATION
STATUS:
**ON THE UK'S
RED-LIST OF
THREATENED
SPECIES**



MAKE A RECORD

At present, wildlife in Greater Manchester is under-recorded so your contribution could make all the difference. You might even be the first person to record a certain species in your area.

More wildlife records will help us to build a better picture of the wildlife living in Greater Manchester and its response to changes in the environment.

Getting involved is really simple - why not download the iNaturalist app for free on your smartphone or submit your record to Greater Manchester Local Record Centre by visiting www.gmwildlife.org.uk/wildlife_recording/

Part of a global movement

Each year Greater Manchester connects with cities across the world to record wildlife using the iNaturalist app. Over four days in April we come together to raise the profile of species recording at a local and global level. Visit www.lancswt.org.uk/events/city-nature-challenge to find out how you can get involved.

Help collect vital
wildlife records for
Greater Manchester –
you'll be amazed at what
you discover living in your
park, garden or
local greenspace.

Image by Ben Hall/2020VISION



my wild garden

The Wildlife Trusts have engaged **355,000** children and adults with nature across the UK



My Wild Garden is one of a number of ground-breaking projects helping to care for and improve our natural environment as part of the Greater Manchester 5 Year Environment Plan.

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/>

The Wildlife Trusts is one of a number of partners supporting the delivery of this environment plan across our city region. To find out more about additional partner activity and how you can get involved visit

<https://naturegreatermanchester.co.uk/>

GREATER MANCHESTER
DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The Wildlife Trusts manage and protect more than **2,300** nature reserves across the UK



58,600 people across the UK have taken part in our campaigns and spoken up for wildlife



The Wildlife Trusts inspire over **38,000** volunteers who contribute over **1.7 million** volunteer hours



TOGETHER WE ARE TRANSFORMING GREATER MANCHESTER

Visit our webpage to see how your individual actions add up to make a big difference for wildlife where you live.

View our interactive map online at www.lancswt.org.uk/mywildcity

or use the hashtags **#MyWildCity** **#GMGreenCity** when you tweet, share or post your images on social media!



National Wildlife Trust statistics for 2018 - 2019

Images by Penny Dixie and Paul Harris/2020VISION and Alan Wright.



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FIND OUT MORE
LANCSWT.ORG.UK/MYWILDCITY



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Manchester and North Merseyside**
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Tel: 01772 324129 Registered charity no. 229325

Image by Gillian Day.

**GREATER
MANCHESTER**
DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



**MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL**

ef Esmée
Fairbairn
Foundation

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