

Wildlife Surveys

If you decide to participate in one of these surveys please can you send all sightings to the West Wales Biodiversity Information Centre (www.wwbic.org.uk) who will pass on the data to the [County Recorders](#). This will help us to improve our knowledge and understanding of wildlife in Carmarthenshire.

General surveys

Name of Survey	Season	Details	Website
Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales Species Survey	Spring, Summer, Autumn	The Wildlife Trust is asking all members to help monitor wildlife in their local area so they can establish over time the distribution of wildlife species that are often thought of as common, such as Small Tortoiseshell, House Sparrow and Song Thrush.	www.welshwildlife.org/BirdSurvey_en.link www.welshwildlife.org/ButterflySurvey_en.link
Nature's calendar	All year	Keep your eyes open for seasonal events, note the dates as you observe them. They will use your records to understand more about the response of the natural world to a changing climate.	www.naturescalendar.org.uk/survey/start.htm
Open Air Laboratories (OPAL) network		<p>OPAL is running five surveys across England to learn more about the state of our environment, and we'd like everyone to get involved.</p> <p>Surveys exploring the health of our soils, the quality of our air and water, and the importance of hedges for biodiversity are running now - see below for details. The final survey will focus on our climate.</p> <p>All ages and abilities can take part and your contribution will be important in helping scientists build up a picture of England's natural environment.</p> <p>We'll provide easy-to-follow survey instructions and all the support you need.</p>	www.opalexplorenature.org/?q=surveys

Children's surveys

Name of Survey	Season	Details	Website
Nature Detectives	All year	Resources for children to participate in wildlife recording.	www.naturedetectives.org.uk/
Snail Search	All year	Get out in your garden to help scientists find alien snails!	www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/scan/snails/

Plants

Name of Survey	Season	Details	Website
Ancient Tree Hunt	All year	Help us to find and map all the old, fat trees across the UK.	www.woodland-trust.org.uk/ancient-tree-hunt/
Wildflower Count	Spring/Summer	<p>In 2000 Plantlife launched the Common Plants Survey, using a list of 65 common plants. Over the years volunteers have sent us feedback about the survey, and this has resulted in our new Wildflowers Count survey.</p> <p>Wildflowers Count has three different ways to take part. All surveys are done within a 1km square that is selected to be within easy reach of your home. And there is a new list of 99 wildflowers to count. You can choose which survey you would like to take part in, as best suits your interests or experience.</p>	www.plantlife.org.uk//things_to_do/wildflowers_count/
Invasive plant species	All year	If you spot a non-native invasive plant in the wild (anywhere except a garden) please let us know. Email invasives@plantlife.org.uk telling us what kind of plant it is and where you saw it (preferably a six-figure grid reference location). We will use this information to help us identify important botanical sites at risk from invasion by problem plants, and so to prioritise action.	www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/plantlife-campaigning-change-invasive-howcanihelp.htm
Common Plant Survey	late March – May June / July / August	The <i>Common Plants Survey</i> is a long-term project monitoring changes to the wild flowers in our countryside. It is the only national annual survey of wild plants in the UK. Its success	www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/plantlife-get-involved-common-plants-survey.html

	or early September.	rests entirely on volunteers.	
Native Bluebell	Spring	Since 2003, thousands of volunteers have helped Plantlife keep track of Bluebells in Britain. Why not join them in the 2009 Bluebell Survey?	www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/plantlife-discovering-plants-bluebell-guide.html
British Bryological Society		In a European context, Wales is particularly rich in mosses and liverworts, having a combination of a damp and mild ("oceanic") climate, relatively clean air, and a variety of suitable habitats. However, many species have become rarer in recent decades due to factors such as habitat loss and pollution, and measures to ensure their conservation have become increasingly important.	Recording of mosses and liverworts in Britain (including Wales) is coordinated and carried out by British Bryological Society members.

Vertebrates

Name of Survey	Season	Details	Website
Big Bat Map	All year	Enter the map above to see where bats have been spotted across the country and to add your own sightings. Let us know when you see any bats and help us build a bigger bat map!	www.bats.org.uk/big_bat_map.php
Living with Mammals	April – June	We need your help with a survey to find out how our wild animals use the built environment and the green spaces within it. By carefully identifying and counting the mammals that live in and around built up land, we can begin to understand – and encourage – the biodiversity on our doorstep.	www.ptes.org/index.php?cat=63
Mammal Monitoring	All year	The Mammal Society (Owl Pellet, dead polecats)	www.abdn.ac.uk/mammal/current_surveys.shtml
Bird Track	All year	The online bird recording scheme to increase the personal, local and national value of your sightings	www.bto.org/birdtrack/index.htm
Bird Atlas	All year	There are two ways to take part in Atlas fieldwork: Choose one or more tetrads (2 x 2 km squares) to do <i>Timed Tetrad Visits</i> Collate lists, anytime, anywhere for <i>Roving Records</i>	www.bto.org/birdatlas/

Big Garden Bird Watch	weekend in January	All you need to do is watch your garden or local park for an hour in January. Simply record the highest number of each species seen in your garden (not flying over) at any one time.	www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch/
Reptiles and Amphibians in gardens	Jan 2008 – June 2009	The results from this survey will contribute to knowledge of where frogs, toads, newts, snakes and lizards are found nationally and provide a unique insight into how important gardens are for their conservation.	'Reptiles and Amphibians in your Garden' pack please call The BTO on 01842-750050 or email: gbw@bto.org www.bto.org/gbw/herps/2009_survey/index.htm
Froglife - Frogwatch campaign	Spring, Summer, Autumn	In 2005, Froglife launched Frogwatch, a national survey to find out more about urban distributions of common frogs, about their habits and about their garden habitats.	The campaign is ongoing and we require as many respondents as possible... http://www.froglife.org/frogwatch.htm
ARG UK	Spring, Summer, Autumn	The ARG UK is a network of wildlife volunteer groups, which aim to protect & conserve the native amphibians & reptiles of the UK. A list of groups in Wales - http://www.arg-uk.org.uk/contactsfurther.htm	Online recording - http://www.arg-uk.org.uk/please_send_in_your_records.htm
Add an Adder!		Adder cadabra! Are adders disappearing before our very eyes? Many say they are. We at <u>Amphibian & Reptile Conservation (ARC)</u> invite you, your friends and relatives to help us find out. We need your recollections, stories and observations, both past and present.	www.adder.org.uk/

Invertebrates

Name of Survey	Season	Details	Website
Buglife Surveys	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Glow-worm survey, oil-beetle survey (in development)	http://www.buglife.org.uk/getinvolved/surveys/ For further information and to take part in a survey, email us info@buglife.org.uk or call 01733 201 210.
Dragonfly and Damselfly Atlas	Spring, Summer	The aim of this project is to update the known distribution of British dragonfly and damselfly species over the next 5 years, culminating in the publication of a new national atlas in 2013.	www.dragonfliesoc.org.uk/dragonfliesinfocus.html
Beewatch		In order to conserve our bumblebees, it's crucial	www.bumblebeeconservation.org.uk/surveys.htm

		that we understand them. You can help us by taking part in one of our surveys. Report any bees you see in your garden or out and about. Run by the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.	
Bees, Wasps & Ants Recording Society	Spring, Summer, Autumn	BWARS is the national society dedicated to studying and recording bees, wasps & ants (aculeate Hymenoptera) in Britain & Ireland	http://www.bwars.com/
Butterfly Conservation - Butterflies for the New Millennium	Spring, Summer	You can report anywhere you see a butterfly that you can identify, whether in your garden or at the top of a Scottish mountain. By recording butterflies you can make a big difference to their conservation and contribute to major scientific research.	http://www.butterfly-conservation.org/bnm/download.php
United Kingdom Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (UKBMS)		A recently formed merger of the long-running Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (BMS) with Butterfly Conservation's co-ordination of 'independent' transects.	Clare Williams Butterfly Conservation (Wales), 10 Calvert Terrace, Swansea, SA1 6AR 01792 642972 cwilliams@butterfly-conservation.org www.ukbms.org/
Moths Count	All year	Moths Count aims to encourage interest in moths throughout the UK and to establish an ongoing National Moth Recording Scheme to improve knowledge and conservation of the 900+ species of larger moths.	www.mothscount.org/site/
Migrant Watch	Late spring/summer	The Painted Lady Butterfly and Humming-bird Hawk-moth are arriving from Africa and becoming increasingly common in the UK. To find out just how common, we need your help	www.butterfly-conservation.org/sightings_home/1095/migrant_watch.html
National Moth Night	Next NMN will be in 2012	National Moth Night (NMN) is Britain's celebration of moths and moth recording. It was launched in	http://www.nationalmothnight.info/

		1999 and has taken place annually since then, the date varying each year in order to focus recording effort on different parts of the season.	
UK Ladybirds	Spring, Summer, Autumn	The Ladybird Survey aims to facilitate the recording of all the UK's ladybirds. On their website you will find lots of information to help you find and identify species and online forms so that you can record your observations.	www.ladybird-survey.org/
Harlequin Ladybird	Spring, Summer, Autumn	<i>The harlequin ladybird, Harmonia axyridis, the most invasive ladybird on Earth.</i> Since its arrival the harlequin ladybird it has never been more important to monitor ladybirds.	www.harlequin-survey.org/
Banded Snail Evolution megalab survey	End March – end of September	Scientists have been studying the banded snail patterns for many years and variations according to habitat and presence of predators. You can help in this big experiment by looking at the types of snails near you.	www.evolutionmegalab.org/
Great British Snail Hunt	End March – end of September	There are well over 80 different species of land snails in the British Isles and some of them are rather tricky to tell apart – even for experts! So instead of looking at all of them they are going to concentrate on just nine different types.	www.open2.net/survey/snails/index.htm
Conchological Society		Here you will find access to details about the Society; current recording projects; fun pages with a light-hearted approach to molluscs; and much, much more.	http://www.conchsoc.org/index.php

Websites to help you identify species and provide information on species.

Butterfly Conservation	www.butterfly-conservation.org/
British Dragonfly Society	www.dragonflysoc.org.uk/
British Trust for Ornithology	www.bto.org/
Plantlife	www.plantlife.org.uk/
Bat Conservation Trust	www.bats.org.uk/
Herpetological Conservation Trust	www.herpconstrust.org.uk/
British Trees	www.british-trees.com/guide/
Lichens	www.uklichens.co.uk/pictureindex
Mushrooms	www.rogersmushrooms.com/gallery/
Moths	www.ukmoths.org.uk/
Caterpillars	www.whatsthis caterpillar.co.uk/
Dipterist's Forum	www.dipteristsforum.org.uk/
British Entomological & Natural History Society	www.benhs.org.uk/
Mammals Trust, UK	www.ptes.org/
All About Beetles	www.allaboutbeetles.co.uk/
Reptiles & Amphibians of UK	www.herpetofauna.co.uk/
Wild About Britain	www.wildaboutbritain.co.uk/
The Mammal Society	www.abdn.ac.uk/mammal/index.shtml
Bumblebee Conservation Trust	www.bumblebeeconservation.org/bumblebees_id.htm
RSPB	www.rspb.org

General species information site.

Arkive <http://www.arkive.org/>

Nature Navigator www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/biodiversity/nature-navigator/

Carmarthenshire Recording Groups websites

West Wales Biodiversity Information Centre: www.wwbic.org.uk

Carmarthenshire Bird Club: www.carmarthenshirebirds.co.uk

Carmarthenshire Bat Group: www.carmarthenshirebiodiversity.co.uk/bats/

Llanelli Naturalists: www.llanellinaturalists.org.uk/

Carmarthenshire Biodiversity Partnership: www.carmarthenshirebiodiversity.co.uk