

Week 6 – maintaining and increasing biodiversity

The song has a new verse: ‘Where have all the sparrows gone, long time passing ...’ Fortunately there are many organisations actively promoting and working for species conservation and there is strong public support for this work. There are plenty of ways we can help, and it is often delightful and rewarding work.

Actions

Choose two or three of these:

- Don’t drop any kind of litter (including cigarette ends) to avoid danger to wildlife
- Go litter picking
- Provide food for a variety of birds
- Visit a farm
- Put up bird and bat boxes
- Put up places for insects to hibernate in
- Drive slowly in the country and watch for animals
- Plant wild flowers and native species in your garden
- Leave wood piles to rot (habitat)
- Do not use weed killer or fertilisers on your lawn
- Have a meadow area in your garden (strimmer-cut once a year)
- Visit a local nature reserve
- Plant hedges
- Build a pond or bog garden

Research and campaigning

Choose one of these:

- Join a local conservation group
- Support farmers who manage for conservation
- Campaign for habitat creation in semi-public places (churchyards, play areas)
- Write to your MP about the need to control the use of genetically modified organisms