

NORFOLK CONSERVATION CORPS

TASK PROGRAMME FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2026

Task Timing We start work at 10.00, and stop for lunch at 12.30. This is usually followed by a walk before we start work in the afternoon, and we finish at 4.30 (or before dusk in the winter).

Footwear This will depend on the weather and ground conditions, but as many of the sites can be wet underfoot (especially in winter), it is a good idea to bring wellington boots if you have some.

Tetanus To keep safe, please ensure that you are up to date with your tetanus protection.

OCTOBER 4th **ALDERFORD COMMON**

9 miles NW Norwich

O.S. Landranger Map 133, grid ref. TG 128 184

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.722235, long 1.1505926
(Carpark is just off the Alderford / Attlebridge road and easily missed).

This important site has a large area of chalk grassland which is a designated SSSI. Chalk grassland is usually the most species rich habitat for plants and is rare in Norfolk. We will likely be managing encroaching bracken and scrub.

Task leader: **Ian Braid**: 07496 219385

OCTOBER 18th **MARSHAM HEATH**

10 miles NW Norwich

O.S. Landranger Map 133, grid ref. TG 166 235

Sat nav cords for parking: lat 52.766216 , long 1.2095475

(Turn off Buxton Road at Botany Bay Farm).

Heathland has become a relatively rare habitat in Britain, only a very small percentage of the prewar acreage surviving. We will be doing our bit to help preserve it by clearing some invading scrub.

Task leader: **Ian Braid**: 07496 219385

OCTOBER 25th **BROADLAND COUNTRY PARK**

7 miles NW Norwich

O.S. Landranger Map 134, grid ref TG 183 175

Access is (temporarily) from the carpark on the north side of Haveringland Road at TG183175, on the edge of St.

Faith's Common (sat nav coords: lat 52.711742, long 1.2303883).

This site, formerly known as Houghen Plantation, is located 7 miles NW of Norwich between Horsford and Felthorpe.

The area includes a species-rich valley fen and mire (a county wildlife site), wet woodland, chestnut coppice and conifer plantations, parts of which have been cleared and restored to open heathland. Today we will be continuing the management of the site. Most likely this will be to control birch and pine colonization of the heathland habitat.

Task leader: **Nigel Smith** Tel: mobile 07552 453743

NOVEMBER 8th **SWANNINGTON UPGATE COMMON**

8 miles NW of Norwich

O.S. Landranger Map 133, grid ref. TG 142 182

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.719281, long 1.1709774.

(Parking is opposite the houses at Upgate)

This is a site we have been visiting for many years, containing a wonderful range of habitats. Near the entrance to the common is a grassland area. South-east of the grassland are some woods containing several biodiverse ponds, and further south-east is a mixed heath and bog area. Today's task is likely to be management of the heathland area.

Task leader: **Nigel Smith** Tel: 07552 453743

NOVEMBER 15th **BUXTON HEATH**

9 miles NW Norwich

O.S. Landranger Map 133, grid ref. TG 171 214

Carpark is just off the road called The Heath

(sat nav coords: lat 52.747012, long 1.2152016)

This site is a SSSI managed by Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Natural England, and is a mosaic of lowland heath, woodland, scrub, and valley mire. It is one of the best examples of this rare habitat type in Norfolk. It has a rich flora, and some rare mosses, liverworts and fungi. We will be controlling pine and birch regrowth on the heath.

Task leader: **Nigel Smith** Tel: mobile 07552 453743

NOVEMBER 22nd **PENSTHORPE**

2 miles SE of Fakenham

O.S. Landranger Map 132, grid ref. TF 947 291

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.824623 long 0.88872448

The popular Pensthorpe Natural Park is 280 hectares of ancient fen meadows, lakes, and woodlands in the Wensum valley. Much of the site, including areas of arable land, is managed for the benefit of wildlife. The details of the task are still to be decided, but we are likely to working on scrub management of some type, perhaps willow coppicing or pollarding.

Task leader: **David Max**

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