



Harlow Conservation Volunteers

c/o Parndon Wood Nature Reserve, Parndon Wood Road, HARLOW, Essex CM19 4SF

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TASK PROGRAMME April – October 2023

TASK LEADERS

Sunday 30th April – Stort Valley Meadows (morning):

Dead hedging coppiced willow material by ditch.

Marshgate Spring (afternoon):

Making access for rubbish clearance & Himalayan balsam removal. Andrew

Sunday 7th May (morning only) – Parndon Moat Marsh

Otter holt construction (1). Andrew

Monday 8th May – The Big Help Out – Parndon Moat Marsh

Otter holt construction (2). Painting Parndon Lock Meadows Lookout. Andrew

Sunday 14th May – Parndon Moat Marsh

Otter holt construction (3). Boardwalk construction (1) Andrew

Saturday 21st May (morning only) – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (2). Otter holt construction (4). Andrew

Saturday 27th May – HCV Spring Day Out

Day out to Essex Wildlife Trust Langdon Nature Reserve & Nature Discovery Centre, near Basildon. Linda

Sunday 28th May – Stort Valley Meadows

Wildflower meadow spring cut – mowing/raking. Andrew

Sunday 4th June (morning only) – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (3). Andrew

Sunday 11th June – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (4). Andrew

Sunday 18th June – Parndon Wood

Tool Maintenance (morning) followed by [lunchtime Barbecue](#).



Harlow Conservation Volunteers

Saturday 24th June – Harlow Town Park

Promoting HCV at Town Park Fun Day (Rainbow Services).

Sunday 25th June – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (5).

Andrew

Sunday 2nd July (morning only) – Marshgate Spring

Himalayan balsam (non-native invasive species) removal (1).

Sunday 9th July – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (6).

Andrew

Sunday 16th July (morning only) – Stort Valley Meadows/ Maymeads Marsh

Himalayan balsam (non-native invasive species) removal (1).
Ladder Board installation.

Andrew

Sunday 23rd July – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (7). Cut back willows in Moat (1).

Andrew

Sunday 30th July (morning only) – Terlings Wood

Himalayan balsam (non-native invasive species) removal, [followed by pub lunch](#).

Sunday 6th August – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (8). Cut back willows in Moat (2).

Andrew

Sunday 13th August (morning only) – Marshgate Spring

Himalayan balsam (non-native invasive species) removal (2).

Sunday 20th August – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (9). Cut back willows in Moat (3).

Andrew

Sunday 27th August (morning only) – Stort Valley Meadows

Wildflower Meadow weed management ahead of annual hay cut.
Himalayan balsam (non-native invasive species) removal (2).

Saturday 2nd September – Harlow Museum & Walled Gardens

Promoting HCV at Community Celebration Fête.

Sunday 3rd September – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (10). Cut back willows on edge of Marsh (1).

Andrew



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Sunday 10th September (morning only) – Marshgate Spring

Himalayan balsam (non-native invasive species) removal (3).
Willow coppicing near pond (1).

Andrew

Sunday 17th September – Parndon Moat Marsh

Boardwalk construction (11). Cut back willows on edge of Marsh (2).

Andrew

Saturday 23rd September – HCV Autumn Day Out (TBC)

Sunday 24th September (morning only) – Stort Valley Meadows

Himalayan balsam (non-native invasive species) removal (3).

Sunday 1st October – Marshgate Spring

Pond Management.
Sluice construction at pond outflow (to be confirmed).

Andrew

Sunday 8th October (morning only) – Marshgate Spring

Willow coppicing near pond (2).

Andrew

Sunday 15th October – Parndon Moat Marsh

Cutting/raking sedge/bramble (1).

Andrew

Tuesday 17th October (eve) – Planning meeting at The Moorhen (to be confirmed).

Sunday 22nd October (morning only) – Parndon Moat Marsh

Cutting/raking sedge/bramble (2).

Andrew

Additional Opportunities

Tuesdays and Saturday mornings – Parndon Wood (please check for dates)

Timber preparation work for the boardwalk at Parndon Moat Marsh

Andrew

Task Information

Tasks start at 10.00am. Morning only tasks finish around 1.00pm; others finish at about 3 – 3.30pm. Everybody is welcome and your help will be valued for whatever time you can spare. No previous experience is necessary. Instruction will be given in use of tools, techniques, and safe working practice.

Note: those under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for them at all times.



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What to bring

You'll need strong footwear – preferably work boots (with protected toe caps) or walking boots, or wellingtons for wet sites – old (warm) clothes, and waterproofs. Sun protection is advisable (even in winter).

We provide tools and personal protective equipment (PPE), but you are welcome to bring your own loppers, bow-saws, work gloves etc. if you have them. We provide tea and coffee, drinking water, and hand-washing facilities, but please bring your own mug and packed lunch.

Health and Insurance

Insurance cover is arranged for the group on task. An up-to-date anti-Tetanus injection is strongly advised for most outdoor activities. If you think you may not be covered on this or are concerned about any other health issues, you should consult your GP.