

Helping wildlife at Fletcher Moss

There are many ways you can learn about and help the wildlife in our local area and in your own garden at home. We need to support and protect our insects, birds, and small mammals, including bees, butterflies, beetles, bats, and all the resident and migrant birds.



At Fletcher Moss we have a number of different bird feeders, and we want you to think of different and useful ways to make a feeder. We have already had some very imaginative ideas for our bird feeding station from local school children. A number of nest boxes have been put up in our wildlife area, and we hope to put up more in Stenner Woods. We have bat roosting boxes on Stenner Lane and in Stenner Woods. There is a 'bug hotel' near the feeding station and there are many other ways to help bugs, beetles and other insects to shelter and hibernate. All of the planting of shrubs and flowers we are doing is aimed at helping insects and birds feed on pollen and



nectar.

You can do a lot at home too. Whatever you do you have to be prepared to experiment a bit, as some ideas work and some don't. Bird feeders are good for small birds, but they can also attract squirrels, parakeets, magpies and pigeons - you have to decide whether you want to feed these as well. It is important to have a bird bath somewhere - keep it clean and topped up. You could put up one or two bird nesting



boxes. You can create little piles of scrubby wood and sticks for ground insects. There are lots of shrubs and flowers you can plant which will be a rich source of pollen and nectar for different kinds of bees and other insects - especially butterflies.



You can find out more about helping wildlife from the internet.

The RSPB has a very informative site: www.rspb.org.uk

If you go to their site they have a great pack which you can send for or download - "**Twenty ways to give nature a home**"

The Friends of Fletcher Moss Park are very keen to let people know what wildlife there is in our park, where to see it, and at what time of year. We are even more interested in finding out what you have seen and to try to answer any questions you have.

Go to: www.fletcher-moss-gardens.org.uk, then select 'Wildlife'.



If you would like to receive regular e-mails about the wildlife in Fletcher Moss Park, then send us an e-mail, either via the 'Contact' button on the website or direct to awhill@globalnet.co.uk.

We look forward to hearing from you

PS Did you know the RSPB was founded at Fletcher Moss? — in 1889.