

WANDLE WATCHERS

This is a guide for recorders and aims to help Wandle Watchers to find wildlife identification information.

Where and when to carry out a survey

Wandle Watchers can pick a regular area to visit regularly or can input records as and when they spot species. It is good to choose a particular spot in the Wandle Valley that you can visit regularly. It is great if you can visit your spot once a month, but it is not essential.

The recording form

The recording form requires a certain amount of detail to make a useable record. What, Who by, when and where? The form also has some compulsory fields that are marked with an asterisk *. These must be completed before the form can be submitted. You will be asked to provide a location, the most accurate locations are given through Grid References, a web link is provided to help you work out the grid reference. If you cannot work it out a postcode or information about the area where you spotted it will suffice.

There is an additional comments section where information like time and weather, behaviour etc. can be added.

Submitting your records

If you are confident using the internet, please record your sightings on the online recording form on the Greenspace Information for Greater London website:

<http://www.gigl.org.uk/online/wandle-watchers.aspx>

If you are not confident entering your sightings online, please send (or drop off) your completed forms (example below) to Louise Crothall, Living Wandle Landscape Partnership Scheme, The Old Bookshop, Morden Hall Park, Morden, London, SM4 5JD

Identifying Species

We have compiled a selection of web links to various species identification sources, that are available to help you identify Wandle species (others are available, this is just a short list):

General – all species

wildlifewatch.org.uk/spotting-sheets

opalexplornature.org/identification

ispotnature.org/webkeys/index.jsp

bbc.co.uk/nature/22062931



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Native Species

Trees – nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/british-natural-history/urban-tree-survey/identify-trees/tree-key/nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/british-natural-history/urban-tree-survey/identify-trees/tree-factsheets/index.html

Grasses – bsbi.org.uk/identification.html

Wild Flowers – nwc.org.uk/visitor_centre/plant_id_guide

Aquatic vegetation - evidence.environment-agency.gov.uk/FCERM/Libraries/FCERM_Project_Documents/sc120008_field_guide.sflb.ashx



Butterflies & Moths– butterfly-conservation.org/44/butterflies-and-moths.html
britishbutterflies.co.uk/



Bugs - opalexplenature.org/sites/default/files/7/file/Bugs-Count-ID-cards-2014.pdf

Bees - bwars.com/index.php?q=content/beginners-bees-wasps-and-ants

Dragonflies & Damselflies - opalexplenature.org/sites/default/files/7/file/water-survey-dragonflies-guide-A5-2014.pdf

Invertebrates - opalexplenature.org/sites/default/files/7/file/Bugs-Count-ID-cards-2014.pdf

Reptiles - arc-trust.org/advice/species-id/reptiles

Mammals - mammal.org.uk/mawse/discover-species

Birds - mammal.org.uk/mawse/discover-species

Fish – canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/features/types-of-fish-found-in-canals-and-rivers



Non – native species identification - nonnativespecies.org/index.cfm?sectionid=47



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Environmental Crime

If you spot a wildlife crime being committed or see the result of a wildlife crime, report it to the Met Wildlife Crime Team. They can be contacted via <http://content.met.police.uk/Site/wildlifecrime>
Phone 020 7230 8898 or email wildlife@met.police.uk.

Example GiGL Recording form

Please record your wildlife sightings in this form.

The information will be useful for monitoring and understanding London's wildlife.

Your records are entered into the Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL) database and made available for conservation, education, planning control and many other uses in London. Data is also passed to the National Biodiversity Network.

Thank you for taking part!

What?	Who?	When?	Where?	How many?	Habitat	Other info.
Name of the species you saw	Person (or people) who made the record.* If an expert validated your record you may wish to add that here too.	The date of your sighting	Name of site, grid reference, description of location, or post code	Number of individuals seen	Describe the habitat you spotted the wildlife in	Is there anything else about the wildlife sighting you'd like to tell us?
<i>e.g. Blackbird</i>	<i>e.g. David Attenborough</i>	<i>e.g. 01/06/2012</i>	<i>e.g. TQ275803 or Victoria Park east of tennis courts</i>	<i>e.g. 1 female, 1 male</i>	<i>e.g. Woodland (broadleaf)</i>	<i>e.g. Female collecting nesting material</i>
	These columns are essential to make a species record					
	These columns are optional, please add useful details if you like, but they are not essential					
*Your name is useful in case we need to contact you about the record, records will only be passed on to valid data users.						



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