



Outcome: Environment

Group case study: TCV Leicestershire Rutland Volunteers

"I've always had a passion for the environment and the skills I've learnt with the group and the places I've seen with it over the years are marvellous... The types of habitats that we are privileged enough to preserve are the pollinator corridors we've helped on, the hedge laying and dry-stone walling that again provides a corridor for wildlife."

Nicky, TCV volunteer

Through the work of The Conservation Volunteers, green spaces are created, protected and improved, for nature and for people.

The Leicestershire Rutland Volunteers tackle all kinds of hands-on, practical environmental work from hedge laying to selective woodland thinning, creating pollinator corridors to putting in boardwalks and dry-stone walling. The group also preserves traditional rural crafts and maintains important habitats, all while supporting each other and increasing their physical and mental wellbeing. With the option of meeting up to three times a week with the Midweek groups, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved in maintaining and protecting local community green spaces.

93% of our volunteers are more connected to nature since volunteering with TCV.

Source: TCV impact figures 2021-22





If we're doing woodland thinning, we're opening up a canopy which allows more sunlight into the woodland floor. So, any seeds and plants that are laying dormant will come through and that will improve the whole biodiversity, the whole habitat structure."

Clive Forty, TCV Senior Project Officer

TCV Leicestershire Rutland Volunteers primarily do practical, hands-on conservation work. From hedge-laying to selective woodland thinning, to putting in boardwalks to improve access whilst protecting habitats.

The volunteers help manage some of their area's most biodiverse and beautiful sites primarily for nature conservation.

The team also manages land designated as SSSIs (Sites of Special Scientific Interest), such as grassland.

By performing an annual late summer cut, which allows the cut grass to dry and drop its seed, the project has seen strides made in enhancing the seed bank and increasing biodiversity.



While the group is involved in very physical work, all are welcome. All tools, training and refreshments are provided to carry out the day's tasks. No previous experience is necessary so improving your local environment couldn't be easier!

"I volunteer to keep fit because I'm disabled and I can't do a lot, but I can do a certain amount. I'm all for the environment because it's very fragile what we've got. We want to try and keep it as much as we can."

Michael, TCV volunteer





"The positive impact I've noticed mainly is seeing their overall wellbeing improve, gaining in confidence, they get a great sense of team spirit, being part of something and achieving something for the local community and for themselves."

Clive Forty, TCV Senior Project Officer

How to get involved

Volunteer with TCV

TCV delivers practical volunteering programmes in local communities across the UK, providing people with everything they need to play an active role in creating, protecting and improving local green spaces.

Order a tree pack for your community green space

TCV empowers people to take action in tackling the climate and ecological emergency. Our I Dig Trees programme provides free tree packs for community groups to plant in their local green spaces. We also deliver opportunities for people to volunteer at organised tree planting events.

Find more ways how TCV's projects and volunteers conserve, manage and protect the environment and how you can help by visiting our website.



www.tcv.org.uk