

Where to send your Derbyshire wildlife records and who can help with identifications

General Points

For a wildlife record to be useful for conservation purposes it must have 4 key elements

What – What species have you seen, be as specific as possible,

Where – Location with a grid reference

When – Date

Who – Your name and contact details

Other observations could include numbers seen, dead/alive, evidence of breeding, juvenile/adult, behaviour etc. This will depend upon the species you have seen and your confidence in recording that species.

Photographs, especially digital photos, can be very useful for others to verify your observations. If you send photos to recorders by e-mail, please keep images well below 1Mb to prevent overloading Inboxes, but do keep a high quality copy available if it is needed.

1. Vascular Plants (all trees, wild flowers, grasses, ferns, rushes, sedges etc)

The County Recorder for the Botanical Society of the British Isles (BSBI) is Dr Alan Willmot. Contact him at 2 Kedleston Close, Derby, DE22 2RA Tel 01332 550373 to deposit records or for the identification of unknown plants.

Alternatively, send records to Nick Moyes at Derby Museum & Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby, DE1 1BS or e-mail nick.moyes@derby.gov.uk.

Contact Derby Museum to get plant recording cards of varying types relevant to Derbyshire.

Plant records are continually being collected for updates to national distribution maps on the BSBI's website at www.bsbimaps.org.uk.

Records are still being collected for a new Flora of Derbyshire which it is hoped to publish soon. Provisional species maps and accounts are viewable online at www.derby.gov.uk/flora Records of new plants (or those not seen here for 20 years) may require photo evidence or voucher specimens. Never collect material that could endanger a plant's survival or break any conservation laws or guidelines.

2. Fungi

Send fungi records to Beverley Rhodes or Peter Smith,

Send photographs for identification/confirmation to:

112 Morley Lane, Stanley, Derbyshire

E-mail Beverley.rhodes@derby.gov.uk.

3. Mosses and Liverworts

The British Bryological Society (BBS) has a team of local recorders for mosses and liverworts. The recorder for Derbyshire is Tom Blockeel, who is recording systematically in the county with the intention of publishing a written 'flora' during the next 5 years or so. The database currently holds about 30,000 records.

Records should be located as precisely as possible, preferably to tetrad level (2 x 2 km square) or below. Specimens may be necessary to verify rare or critical species. Ideally, records are submitted in spreadsheet format, but records in any format are welcome. The BBS has an electronic version of field record cards that can be used for site lists.

Recorder:

Tom Blockeel

9 Ashfurlong Close, Dore, Sheffield S17 3NN

Email: Tblockeel@aol.com.

4. Mammals

Bats

The Derbyshire Bat Conservation Group collates information on bats and roosts in Derbyshire. You can submit bat records via the Derbyshire Bat Conservation Group website www.derbyshirebats.org.uk.

Or send records to 82 Wellington Sreet, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3GS

Or by e-mail to: derbybcgos@hotmail.com

Water voles and otters

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust collate records of otter and water vole sightings. Send all water vole and otter records to enquiries@derbyshirewt.co.uk.

Telephone 01773 881188

Other mammals

Derbyshire Mammal Group is working on a County Mammal Atlas which will show distribution of all mammal species within the county since 1990. The Group is working in partnership with other organisations to mobilise mammal records for the atlas and are happy to receive any mammal records, including signs, live or dead mammals in any format. However, it is preferred if this could be electronic for ease of transferring to the master database. A formatted excel spreadsheet can be downloaded from the Mammal Group website for large amounts of records. Individual records can be sent direct or input using the on-line recording form from the website.

Provisional species distribution maps are shown on the website. www.derbyshiremammalgroup.com.

Mammal Recorder:

Debbie Alston, 90, Over Lane, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 0HN Tel 01773 821804

mammalrecorder@derbyshiremammalgroup.com.

4. Birds

Bird records can be submitted via the DOS website at www.DerbyshireOS.org.uk.
Or to the county recorder (rare birds) at
Rodney Key, 3 Farningham Cres, Spondon, Derby DE21 7DZ
e-mail: r_key@sky.com. Telephone: 01332 678571

Derbyshire Ornithological Society is the county bird club and, apart from providing a 10-page monthly newsletter is responsible for publishing the annual Derbyshire Bird Report. The latter normally appears in November and summarises up to 55,000 individual bird records from the previous year. The Society has a full range of indoor and outdoor activities and the website offers contact details covering these and other enquires.

5. Amphibians & Reptiles

The Derbyshire Amphibian and Reptile Group collects information on amphibians and reptiles across the county and in the Peak District National Park. The records are used in partnership with Nick Moyes, the County Reptile Recorder, at the Derby Museum Biological Records Centre to produce distribution maps that are important to alert planners to the presence of the any reptile and Great Crested Newt sites when considering development proposals.

Information on amphibian breeding ponds is particularly welcome.

Reptiles are poorly recorded across the County and any sighting is valuable, photographic evidence is useful particularly to avoid misidentification of snakes and to distinguish between lizards and newts. Any information about reptile hibernation sites, basking areas and for grass snakes egg laying sites is very valuable for protecting these keys areas.

Recording sheets can be downloaded from their website www.derbyshirearg.co.uk and returned by email or post to the Secretary:

Chris Monk Hilburn (County Amphibian Recorder), Chapel Lane, Middleton, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 4NF

Telephone: 01629 823136. e-mail secretary@derbyshirearg.co.uk

6. Invertebrates

The Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Entomological Society collate invertebrate records. All records submitted will be entered on a computer database and used for nature conservation, research and education. Records may be passed on to other recorders where appropriate.

All records remain the property of the individual recorder unless otherwise stated

Send records to: records@danes-insects.co.uk

Dave Budworth, 121, Wood Lane, Newhall, Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE11 0LX