

To find out more, please get in touch.  
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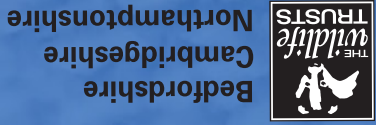
**Join us**  
Our members provide the vital support needed to help local wildlife flourish. Membership only costs a few pounds a month and all members receive our award-winning seasonal magazine, 'Local Wildlife'.



Trustees of the Wren Wildlife Trust, Audrey Martin and Will Trust, administered by Hewitsons.



# Welcome to The Wildlife Trust Cambourne nature reserve



**Help us keep Cambourne special**  
Your local Wildlife Trust works for the recovery of wildlife in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire in order to create a wilder future for all to enjoy.  
We are a charity dependent on voluntary contributions, and with increasing pressure on the environment, we cannot adequately restore and protect our precious local wildlife without more support.

## We hope you enjoy your visit

**How to get here**  
OS sheet 153: Car Park TL 316595  
Cambourne is 9 miles west of Cambridge and is easily accessed from the A428.  
**Public transport**  
Frequent bus services from Cambridge  
**Acknowledgements**  
The Cambourne Wild Discovery Trail Project was supported by

### The Wildlife Trust in Cambourne

Formerly farmland, the new parish of Cambourne was born in the 1990s from a visionary approach to planning development sensitively around wildlife and the natural environment.

The Wildlife Trust assisted from the start, helping develop a 'green infrastructure' which retained natural features such as woodlands, hedges and ponds as well as identifying suitable places for the creation of new habitat networks which the town could be built around.

These 'wild' spaces now form a 95 hectare (235 acres) nature reserve, interwoven around the town, which we look after, ensuring they continue to be good wildlife habitats.

Management involves cutting the grass and hedges at the right time of year, maintaining the paths and ditches and monitoring what is happening to the wildlife as the nature reserve develops.

### 'Wild' residents

Cambourne now supports more wildlife than the surrounding land, and is home to some rare species protected by law. Great crested newts lay their eggs in the ponds. Water voles use the lakes and ditches. Skylarks and other farmland birds love the meadows. The wild flowers around the site provide nectar for butterflies to feed on. If you walk around the site quietly you may be lucky enough to spot some of them.

### Cambourne Wild Discovery Trail

This 1.5km trail loops south from Oaks Wood car park, followed by a loop to the north. There are information boards along the trail to tell you more about the different areas of the nature reserve and the wildlife that lives in them. It should take about 20 minutes to walk - longer if you stop to look at all the signs!



### Lakes and Ponds

The lakes in Cambourne were created to collect excess water from the town during heavy rain to prevent flooding, but they also provide a great place for lots of wildlife, especially birds such as coot. If you visit in the early morning you may be lucky and see a kingfisher, heron or cormorant fishing.



Great crested newt

### Grassland

Look out for bright yellow bird's-foot trefoil and the purple thistle-like flowers of common knapweed, amongst many other wildflowers. These flowers provide nectar for butterflies such as meadow brown and common blue.



Common blue on bird's-foot trefoil

### Woodlands

Strips of woodland were planted around Cambourne to provide food and shelter for wildlife and a pleasant area to walk through. See if you can spot hawthorn, hazel, alder, willow and field maple.

Be first to hear about local wildlife news and events - sign up to our eNews: [wildlifebcn.org/e-news](http://wildlifebcn.org/e-news)

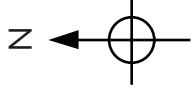




Kingfisher



Skylark



N



### KEY

- Public footpath
- Public bridleway
- Permissive path
- Car park
- The Wildlife Trust BCN Head Office
- Wildlife Trust nature reserve
- Green spaces not managed by the Wildlife Trust
- Built up area
- Lakes and ponds
- Viewpoint

### Help keep Cambourne special

Please dispose of your litter in the bins provided or take it home with you. If you see any anti-social behaviour, please contact the police on 101.

Dogs are welcome on the reserve but must be kept under control at all times. Please clean up after your dog. Special bins have been provided at most of the entrances.

Angling is permitted at Lake Ewart only. A membership or day ticket is required from Cambourne Fishing Club and you must have a valid rod licence from the Environment Agency.

### Access

Some paths are suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs, but some can be uneven and muddy in places, especially in winter.

There are cycle paths and bridleways crossing the site in several places. Please be considerate of other users.