



Wildlife Trust for
**Beds, Cambs
& Northants**

The Wildlife Trust
Cambridgeshire Churchyard
Conservation Award Scheme,
The Wildlife Trust BCN
The Manor House
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Cambridgeshire Churchyard Conservation Award Scheme

Once you have registered as part of the scheme you can work towards the bronze, silver or gold award. Each award lasts for 3 years after which you can re-apply or go for a higher award. Initially you should request a free advisory visit to help you on your way.



"At a time when so much of the natural world is under threat this award helps us to create valuable sanctuaries for wildlife and to set an example within local communities of how to promote biodiversity and care for God's creation."

The Bishop of Ely. The Right Rev'd Stephen Conway

wildlifebcn.org/advice-landowners

To request a visit or to discuss applying for an award please contact the co-ordinator or the Wildlife Trust. Cambridgeshire Churchyard Conservation Award Scheme, The Wildlife Trust BCN, The Manor House, Broad Street, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6DH. Email; Cambridgeshire@wildlifebcn.org telephone 01954 713500 or contact the co-ordinator, Diana Cook 07968245457, diana.cook@wildlifebcn.org

Scoring Guide (points)

Grasslands and Wildflower areas (meadow or equivalent)

- Spring flower areas (cut late spring/early summer). Mowings removed (3)
- Summer flower areas (cut autumn and early spring. Mowings removed) (3)
- Uncut area(s) (cover for small mammals) (2)
- Short grass, mowings removed. (1)
- Paths cut through and around meadows (2)
- Efforts to develop flowers and reduce coarse grasses e.g. with yellow rattle (2)
- Nettles retained and managed in sunny areas for butterflies (2)
- No use of chemicals or herbicides (2)

Trees, Shrubs and Herbs

- Old trees well maintained (2) and new plantings well cared for (1)
- Providing berries/fruit (1), seeds/nuts (1) and nectar (1)
- Mainly native species (1) providing potential nest sites (1)
- Area of planted herbs for pollinators (1)

Management, Education and Public Relations

- A management plan (1), displayed (1) and being implemented (1)
- Attempts to involve others (1) and evidence of effort/enthusiasm (1)
- Surveys have been carried out (1) and monitoring of species continues (1)
- Current churchyard conservation information available (2)
- A seat provided for visitors to enjoy the churchyard and its wildlife (1)

Sustainability

- Reduction of plastic flowers and recycling of visitors flowers and churchyard cuttings (2) Consider growing cut flowers and source bulbs locally (1)
- Communication of what the church/churchyard is doing towards sustainability (1) Water butts in use (2)

Variety of Habitats

- Mix of vegetation heights (grass, shrubs and trees) (2)
- Log or brushwood piles (1) and compost heap (1)
- Pond or water feature (e.g. bird bath) (2)
- Bird boxes or supply of natural nesting sites (1)
- Bat boxes or evidence of bats using buildings (1)
- Seed bearing plants for finches left over winter (1)
- Insect tubes/bug hotels and no unsympathetic pointing /repairs of stonework that block up insect holes (1)

BRONZE AWARD INFORMATION

The bronze award is aimed at churchyards who are starting to manage their churchyard for wildlife. You need some form of management plan and to have made a start on some conservation work.

Requirements: 10 points

- A Management Plan
- 6 points from the Grassland section and a further 4 points made up from any of the sections

SILVER AWARD INFORMATION

The silver award is aimed at churchyards whose conservation management is up and running with obvious benefits to a range of wildlife

Requirements: 25 points

25 points from across any of the scoring sections, but must include 10 from the Grasslands and Wildflower section, plus:

- Wildflower areas (where grass cuttings are removed)
- A leaflet, noticeboard or other way of informing people what work is going on and why
- Water for birds, insects and mammals
- A compost heap, and a log or brushwood pile
- Bat, bird or insect boxes
- A good source of berries or seeds available over the winter months

GOLD AWARD INFORMATION

The gold award is aimed at the best churchyards for wildlife, where conservation management is well established across a range of habitats and species and benefiting a range of wildlife.

Requirements: 40 points

- Meet all requirements from the silver award
- Plus score 40 points including at least 5 from each section (except sustainability) and including:
- An ongoing programme of monitoring and recording of wildlife