

The Wildlife Trust / Beds, Cambs, Northants

December 2024

Supporting people to connect with wildlife is one of the main aims of the Wildlife Trust movement.

In December and January, the Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants join other Trusts across the UK to encourage people to take part in the **12 Days Wild challenge** – to do something wild every day from 25th December until 5th January, to help keep nature in mind through the midwinter period.

Your wild acts might be about connecting directly with local wildlife, or perhaps an environmental action. You can sign up on [our website](#) and tag us in social media (@wildlifebcn, #12DaysWild). Here are a few ideas:

- Visit the Wildlife Trust [BCN website](#) and find a new nature reserve to explore nearby.
- Go star gazing (our [Great Fen project](#) has accredited dark skies).
- Spot tracks and signs of wildlife like feathers, burrows, and footprints (you can post photos on our Monitoring and Research Facebook page if you are not sure what it is)
- Try a volunteer work party.
- Submit a wildlife record (visit the website of [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Environmental Records Centre](#) find out how).
- Refresh yourself about what you can put in the recycling bin.
- Go fungi spotting.

A few fungi that you might spot over winter are:

Jelly ear (sometimes called wood ear): a pinkish brown gelatinous bracket fungus, that looks a bit like a group of ears! They grow on decaying branches, especially elder.

Turkey tail: a colourful bracket fungus with a leathery texture, that grows in tiered layers, with rings of brown, cream, red, grey, and sometimes green in older specimens

Candle snuff: a small greyish fungus with a branching-antler appearance. Found on fallen branches and tree stumps

Trooping funnel: pale, with a funnel shape and raised area in the centre. These are often found in rings or arcs on woodland floors.

Further information

- Path and site closures: www.wildlifebcn.org/explore/reserve-updates
- cambridgeshire@wildlifebcn.org
- @wildlifebcn
- www.wildlifebcn.org

The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs, and Northants is a local wildlife conservation charity aiming to achieve bigger, better, and more joined up habitats for wildlife and people. We do this by working in partnership to conserve and enhance habitats and biodiversity, and through community work, helping people enjoy, understand, and take action for wildlife.

The [West Cambridgeshire Hundreds](#) are a group of nature reserves owned and/or managed by the Wildlife Trust for Beds Cambs and Northants: Hardwick, Gamlingay, Hayley, and Waresley and Gransden Woods, and Cambourne Nature Reserve.