



Become a Nature Conservationist at The Weir Garden

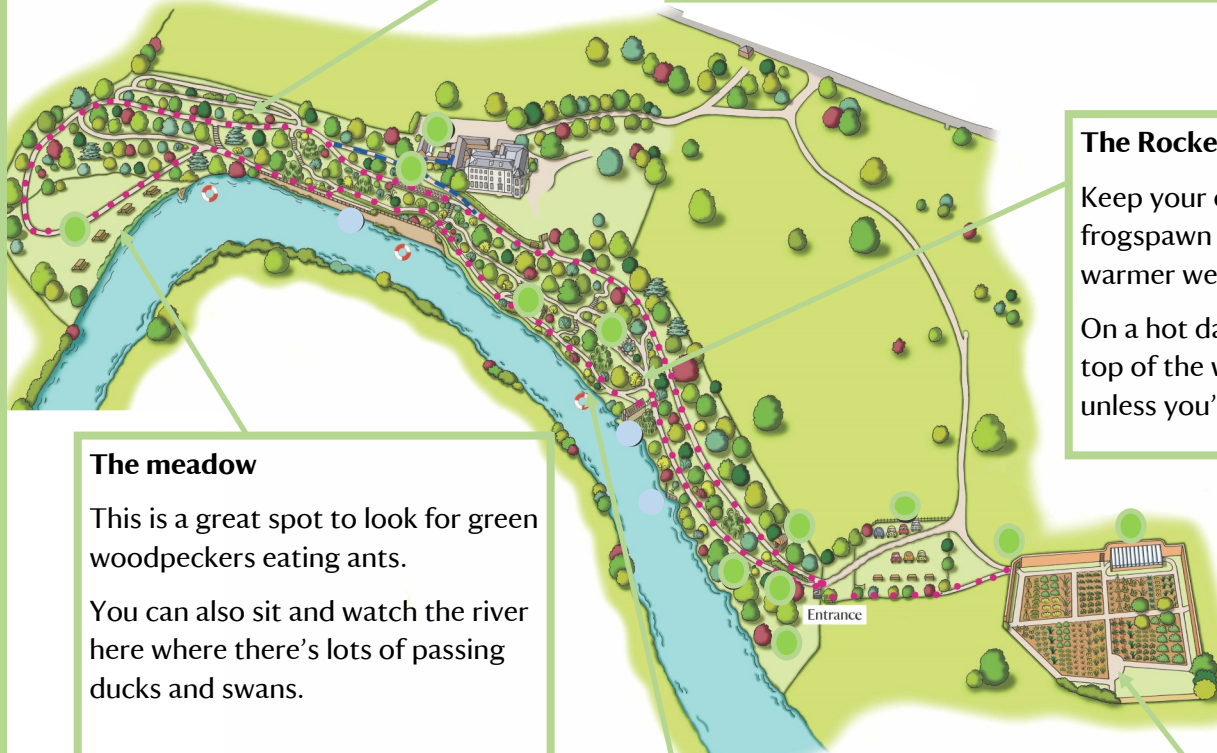
If you're visiting here today then chances are, you love wildlife and nature as there's lots here in the garden. Use these hints and tips to make the most out of your visit today and see what you can spot whilst here.

Three top tips

1-Never step off the path-you might kill the flowers by treading on them and not only would that be a big shame for the garden but our bees and butterflies would be left without food! Even if you can't see any flowers there may be bulbs emerging. A good nature conservationist never strays off the pathway.

2-Shh...keep quiet! The quieter you are the more nature you'll see! Try sitting down somewhere silently for a few minutes, what can you see, hear and smell?

3-Take your rubbish home with you or pop it in a bin. Animals might eat or get trapped in any litter you leave, help us care for the garden by keeping it clean and animal-friendly.



The woodland

Can you hear lots of noise in the trees here? If so, that's because there's a rookery. Part of the crow family, rooks are very intelligent birds and built their nests in early springtime. They're pretty messy-you'll notice lots of poo on the ground here!

In spring, there's lots of wild garlic you can see and smell here in the woods. Listen out for the tapping of woodpeckers too.



The Rockery

Keep your eyes peeled for frogs and frogspawn in spring, as well as newts in warmer weather.

On a hot day newts like to bask on the top of the water, but you won't see one unless you're really quiet and still!

The meadow

This is a great spot to look for green woodpeckers eating ants.

You can also sit and watch the river here where there's lots of passing ducks and swans.

The boathouse

Otters sometimes visit this boathouse. We've found many pawprints in the mud here and have even caught glimpses of them on an infra-red camera! Will you be lucky enough to spot one today?

The walled garden

Look for butterflies here in the walled garden. Can you name any?



Use the back of your sheet to sketch some of the nature you spot during your visit.