



**ESSEX**  
Wildlife Trust

# Living Landscapes

Good for Wildlife  
Good for People

Protecting **Wildlife** for the Future and for the People of Essex

# Living Landscapes



“Bringing  
**wildlife conservation**  
into the **21st century**”

# Help us to restore Essex to a county that is rich in wildlife for all to enjoy



Living Landscapes The Wildlife Trusts vision to bring a new and exciting initiative to conservation. Living Landscapes is a big but simple idea, to look after whole landscapes for the benefit of wildlife and people. Essex Wildlife Trust is working hard across the county to restore, recreate and rebuild Living Landscapes which will enable species and people to move through a wildlife-rich countryside.

Nature reserves are being expanded outwards by working with landowners and other conservation organisations so that wildlife has access to even bigger areas of land and people have access to better connected green spaces.

Essex used to be a wildlife-rich county. The county had many wildflower meadows; we have lost over 90% of them. Since 1930 we have lost 72% of our coastal marsh. Skylark numbers halved between 1969 and 1991 and the Song Thrush has declined by 73% since the mid 1970s.

Essex Wildlife Trust is already working in partnership with landowners, other conservation organisations, local authorities, councils, local communities and businesses to help establish Living Landscapes.



# Living Landscapes



# Living Landscapes – Good for wildlife, good for people



“Research has shown that both rural and urban green space is vital for people’s well-being. It improves self esteem and mood, and reduces blood pressure. If people are physically active, that further improves their health. This indicates that we should think of green places as part of the health system, as well as being important for biodiversity.”

Professor Jules Pretty, OBE, University of Essex

Nature reserves used to be the way to protect our countryside, but now we are at the stage where we can move nature conservation forward. Living Landscapes will offer our wildlife the chance to recolonise and be robust for the future. There is now proof of how important our countryside and green spaces are to our own well-being.



# What makes a Living Landscape

People learning about,  
benefiting from, and  
enjoying the landscape

Green spaces in, and  
between, our villages,  
towns and cities



PLUS

varied and wild habitats:  
managed, restored and  
reconnected for wildlife



PLUS





PLUS



PLUS



Connected areas in which wildlife can move about freely and has room to adapt to change

Making the most of every opportunity to benefit the environment

*please share our vision*

# What you can do

There are ways you can be involved in the Living Landscapes work at Essex Wildlife Trust:

**Join as a member of Essex Wildlife Trust** and help us to achieve our work to provide Living Landscapes and Living Seas for wildlife and local people.

**Get involved and volunteer** with Essex Wildlife Trust. Why not join a local work party, your local group, help run a visitor centre or join our survey team?

**Enjoy your local area.** Write to us and tell us about the area you enjoy and why.

**Are you a landowner?** Are there opportunities on your land to do some work for wildlife? We can work with you to help you with potential funding.

**Please sign up for our email newsletters** which will keep you informed of campaigns and events. Email: [e-news@essexwt.org.uk](mailto:e-news@essexwt.org.uk)

**Take part in an event.** During the summer of 2011 we will have a large number of Living Landscape events, so please come and take part.

**Encourage wildlife into your garden.** Have wildlife areas, put up a nest box, build a pond or feed the birds.

**Find out more.** Visit [www.essexwt.org.uk](http://www.essexwt.org.uk)

**Are you a business, school or organisation?**

You can support a Living Landscape and receive our Living Landscape Award. Please contact us for more details.



**ESSEX**  
Wildlife Trust

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