

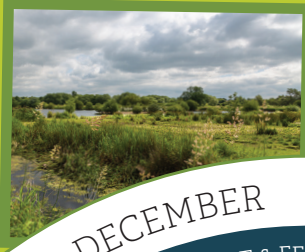
Countryside Calendar



Understand farming and wildlife to enjoy dog walking through the seasons

Autumn

As the autumn colours develop, migratory birds and waders ground-roost on Tameside and some areas of Kettle Brook. Watch them from a distance as they can become exhausted if they are repeatedly disturbed.



Winter

Bracing winter walks are a great way to keep warm. All the sites are quieter now and the wildlife is less likely to be disturbed by more adventurous walkers!



Wild about Tamworth Walking on the Wild Side



Late Summer

From 1st August the leads can come off on many of our sites for well-behaved dogs when away from grazing livestock. Watch out for grass snakes basking in the sun. While they are not poisonous, an encounter can be stressful for dogs, snakes and owners!



Spring and early Summer

Explore woodlands and more urban sites, including Hodge Lane, Dosthill Park and Wigginton Park, to avoid disturbing ground-nesting birds. Keep your dog close as the countryside bursts into life.



Enjoying and caring for green spaces with your dog

There are many sites to enjoy with your dog in and around Tamworth and some of these include the Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) managed by Tamworth Borough Council with the support of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) and local community volunteer groups.



Birds nest on grass and in hedges and trees in spring and early summer. Keep your dogs close as the countryside bursts into life.



Between August and October, cattle will be grazing Broad Meadow LNR – why not visit the site and meet them? Just remember the countryside code and follow the signs on site.

If you usually let your dog off the lead on Broad Meadow but can't for a couple of months while the cattle are there, why not take the opportunity to visit another site? There are seven other LNRs to choose from plus lots of other walks including one just the other side of the river.

Practical conservation takes place on these sites regularly. Please close gates, read signs, take dog litter away with you or deposit in a bin and ensure you can always see your dog in case work is taking place.



Respect and Enjoy Tamworth

All the LNRs and parks are public open spaces and contain permitted paths for you to enjoy exploring with your dog. Please just remember the four Cs :

Control

Always ensure your dog is in sight and comes back when called. If you are not totally confident of your dog's recall, use a lead.

Care for farm animals and wildlife

Never let your dog approach or chase livestock or wildlife. Animals that worry or injure livestock can legally be destroyed by stock owners.

Consider others

Never let your pet approach other people or animals uninvited.

Clear up

Always remove your dog's waste and take home or dispose of in the nearest bin. It contains parasites that are harmful to people, wildlife and livestock.

You can help us to continue to provide these facilities by behaving responsibly and encouraging others to do so. Why not contact us about becoming a "walkies warden"? It is great to hear from people who use our wild spaces regularly – they usually know best what is happening on the site!

Why not join the other volunteers from Tamworth who manage these sites? They usually meet once a month for a couple of hours and your help could make a big difference to places you enjoy using. Contact the Wild About Tamworth Officer, details below.



The Wild About Tamworth Project is a partnership between Tamworth Borough Council and Staffordshire Wildlife Trust which aims to improve the wild spaces of Tamworth for people and wildlife.

To get involved with the project, contact the Wild About Tamworth Project Officer.

Phone: 07970 067711 or 01889 880100

Email: tamworth@staffs-wildlife.org.uk

