

Highbury Park Nature Recovery Network



The NRN is a large-scale development across the West Midlands to develop green corridors for wildlife. It was first funded by the Government from 2013 – 2017. Funding has been continued by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation. The Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust team has led the partnership that has so far resulted in 250 sites across Birmingham and the Black Country being improved for nature, with 220 hectares of woodland, meadow and heathland enhanced for wildlife to thrive, through the help of many volunteers. The Nature Recovery Network at Highbury forms part of this development. The map above shows areas that have been improved and future work planned above and below the car park.



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Between 2010 – 2019 at Highbury 500 mixed woodland species of trees have been planted by Birmingham City Council Rangers, Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust, Highbury Park Friends and Woodland Wednesday Volunteers. Trees include hazel, alder, buckthorn, oak and others. We have coppiced to encourage new growth.

Wildflower planting in the woodlands includes bluebells, daffodils, primroses, wood sedge, wood melick, red champions; 500 mixed hedgerow species have also been planted including hawthorn, dog rose, guelder rose and rowan.



Our hay meadow, has been strewn with yellow rattle, yarrow, quaking oat grass, black knapweed, lady's bedstraw, meadow cranesbill, field scabious, meadow vetchling, rough hawkbit, ox-eye daisy, birds foot trefoil, cowslip, self- heal, betony and other plants. It is cut once per year.

All of these developments will help our wildlife by improving the eco-system. We have seen more butterflies, bees and other pollinators, and there is increased food for birds and mammals. A big thank you to everyone who has helped!

