

Virtual Survey Guide

For **basic wildlife surveying** use the wildlife survey form. For **detailed wildlife surveying**, following the species specific links:

- **Bird survey** – our bird survey method is based on the Common Bird Census which is no longer supported by the British Trust for Ornithology (see sheet included).
 - For **general bird** records “Roving Records”
http://www.bto.org/birdatlas/taking_part/roving-records-form.pdf
 - **Amphibian survey**– NARRS
<http://www.narrs.org.uk/naspack.htm>
 - **Reptiles survey** – NARRS
<http://www.narrs.org.uk/nrspack.htm>
 - **Butterfly survey**
<http://upperthames-butterflies.org.uk/recording.html>
 - **Water Vole survey**
Due to be provided, or contact Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust.
- Plant survey** – see sheet included.
- **Wildlife Survey Form** (additional forms & online entry)
<http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/leis-biodiversity.htm>
 - **Key site maps** – you will soon be able to get maps of our sites by visiting the Biodiversity page on our website, alternatively we can provide a limited number of site maps in paper form and on survey days.

Please note: many of the survey methods are based on a randomly assigned grid square but we would like you to concentrate on your favourite open spaces so please ignore these parts of the survey instructions.

What do I record?

We have five top priorities for recording that would most benefit our records but don't be put off! What is common today may be rare tomorrow.

1. Bracknell 24

The Bracknell Forest Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) lists species that are locally important:

Barn Owl	Noctule bat
Brilliant Emerald dragonfly	Ragged Robin
Brown Trout	Round-leaved sundew
Bullfinch	Silver-studded Blue butterfly
Cowslip	Skylark
Dartford Warbler	Small Red Damselfly
Devil's bit Scabious	Stag Beetle
Glow-worm	Swift
Great Crested Newt	Violet Click Beetle
Hobby	Water vole
Kingfisher	Wild Service tree
Nightjar	Woodlark

For more information, you can view the BAP at our website www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/parks or request a copy from the Biodiversity Officer.

2. UK BAP species

These are species that are listed as vulnerable and in need of conservation at a national level. To access this information, visit www.ukbap.org.uk.

3. Protected species

Species can be protected at national or European level and these include all birds when nesting, all British reptiles and amphibians and many more. For a general guide visit www.naturenet.net/law.

4. Large numbers/breeding/special activity

Anything that involves large numbers is important and may include migratory or wintering species. Breeding is also crucial evidence that a species uses a habitat for it's most vulnerable stages and records should also include sightings of young or eggs. Anything out of the ordinary may be an important sign of the wildlife activity on a site.