

# Volunteer 4 Good

Environmental volunteering project for people aged over 50

If you cannot make it to any of the taster sessions available on 12 and 13 May, please check the following websites for details of further environmental volunteering opportunities:

- [leicester.gov.uk/promoting-biodiversity](http://leicester.gov.uk/promoting-biodiversity)
- [leicestershire.gov.uk/jobs-and-volunteering](http://leicestershire.gov.uk/jobs-and-volunteering)
- [b-inspired.org.uk](http://b-inspired.org.uk)
- [bradgatepark.org](http://bradgatepark.org)
- [canalrivertrust.org.uk](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk)
- [communitycycles.org](http://communitycycles.org)
- [environmentalstudies.biz](http://environmentalstudies.biz)
- [lopc.co.uk](http://lopc.co.uk)
- [sltrust.org.uk](http://sltrust.org.uk)
- [srcentre.org.uk/saffron-acres/](http://srcentre.org.uk/saffron-acres/)
- [tcv.org.uk](http://tcv.org.uk)
- [trentriverstrust.co.uk](http://trentriverstrust.co.uk)

Visit [leicester.gov.uk/parks-volunteering](http://leicester.gov.uk/parks-volunteering) for details of all Parks Services volunteering opportunities



Environmental Studies



Sustainable Land Trust



Leicester City Council



Aged over 50 with a few hours to spare? Want to...

- meet new people?
- improve your local environment?
- do something different?
- learn a new skill?



Sign up for one of our volunteer events and help us make a difference to local environments and habitats

A huge range of options available (see inside for details)



**Volunteer 4 Good**  
Environmental volunteering project for people aged over 50



## What's it all about?

**Leicester City Council has teamed up with a host of environmental partner organisations to offer a range of exciting volunteering opportunities for people aged over 50 who are new to volunteering and would like to improve their local environment, learn new skills or simply meet new people.**

More than 80 events will take place throughout Leicester and Leicestershire on **Friday 12** and **Saturday 13 May**, ranging from conservation taster sessions to cleaning up the River Soar, city walking route identification to community gardening, waste reduction... and lots more besides.



## How do I sign up?

It's easy:  
Pick the activity (or activities) you'd like to try out, then go online to register and receive further information: [consultations.leicester.gov.uk/communications/v4g](https://consultations.leicester.gov.uk/communications/v4g).

Alternatively, if you don't have access to the internet, mark the events you'd like to attend on this booklet, call **0116 454 4469** and we'll take your details over the phone.

Please let us know if you have any mobility or access requirements

## What next?

Once we've received your registration form, we'll be in touch with full details about your event(s) – where it's taking place, how to get there, suitable clothing and footwear, etc. The person who contacts you will be from the organisation running the event(s) you have chosen, so will be able to answer any questions you may have.

The Volunteer 4 Good environmental volunteer project is a partnership project involving Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council, b-inspired, Bradgate Park Trust, Canal & River Trust, Community Cycles, Environmental Studies Ltd, Evington in Bloom, Glen Parva Parish Council, Knighton Park Gardening Club, Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Saffron Acres, Sustainable Land Trust, TCV and Trent River Trust.



**Feel free to tell your friends about our environmental volunteer project – the more the merrier! (please note that places are limited on some of the events, so please book early to avoid disappointment).**

**You'll also be able to take part in regular environmental volunteering opportunities if you enjoy any of the taster sessions.**



Session	Description	Location	Session time(s)	Organisator	Notes
BioBlitz event support	Learn more about wildlife / engaging with members of the public in nature. Help with guided walks, nature trails and collecting wildlife data	Knighton Park, LE2 3RR	7.30am-12.30pm or 12.30-3.30pm	Leicester City Council	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Bracken management	Clearing bracken from newly planted trees	Bradgate Park, LE6 0HB	1.30-3.30pm	Bradgate Park Trust	1, 3, 4, 8, 10
Canoe litter pick	Canoeing litter pick along the river	Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre, LE4 5PN	9am-12noon or 1-4pm	Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre	2 (12 optional)
Clean up and litter pick	Removal of rubbish / household waste. Planting summer display bedding	Evington, LE5 6TA	10am-12noon	Evington In Bloom	
Community garden makeover	Weeding, mowing, planting community garden	Wellinger Way, LE3 1RG	10am-1pm	b-inspired	1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 10
Community planters	Plant up unused growing containers in street environment	Hockley Farm Road (meet at LE3 1HL)	12-2pm	b-inspired	1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9
Composting Buddy training	Initial training to help you provide home composting advice to a wider audience	Brocks Hill Environment Centre, Oadby, LE2 5JJ	10am-12.30pm or 1-4pm	Leicestershire County Council	2
Cycle maintenance training	Basic bike maintenance training	Bishop Street, LE1 6AF	10am-2pm	Community Cycles	
Dry stone walling taster session	Traditional countryside drystone walling (no experience required)	Charnwood, LE11 3YG	10am-12.30pm or 1-3.30pm	TCV	2, 4, 8, 10
Edible hanging basket making	Make you own edible hanging basket (take it home or donate to Evington in Bloom)	Rowlatts Hill Allotments, LE5 4LD	10am-12.30pm or 1-3.30pm	TCV	2, 5, 10
Gardening session	Weeding, planting community allotment	Bradgate Park, LE6 0HB	9.30am-1.30pm	Bradgate Park Trust	1, 5, 8, 9, 10
Green Life Boat, litter clearance	River cleaning session onboard a narrow boat. Learn about litter impact on water quality / wildlife conservation	River Soar, LE35QU	10-11am, 11am-12noon 1-2pm or 2-3pm	Leicester City Council	2, 8, 10, 13



## Notes coding

### The numbers in the Notes column relate to:

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Need to be moderately fit                     | 7) Walking on footpaths             |
| 2) Suitable for volunteers with limited mobility | 8) Bending involved                 |
| 3) Open field environment                        | 9) Digging involved                 |
| 4) Open woodland environment                     | 10) Uneven surfaces                 |
| 5) Generally flat garden surface                 | 11) Ability to cycle, own cycle     |
| 6) Generally flat road surface                   | 12) Ability to canoe                |
|  | 13) Working from boats / near water |

Session	Description	Location	Session time(s)	Organisator	Notes
Introduction to bike maintenance	Basic bike maintenance & DIY repair, plus chance to ride the new Leicester Cycle Circuit	New College, LE3 6DN	5.30 - 8.30pm: 50min sessions starting each hour on the half hour	Leicester City Council	11
Leicester Cycle Circuit Introduction	Opportunity to ride new circuit, meet ride leaders, race and event organisers and share group riding skills	New College, LE3 6DN	5.30 - 8.30pm: 50min sessions starting each hour on the half hour	Leicester City Council	11
Litter pick	Preventing litter from entering the river and improving the local environment	Rally Park, LE3 5JH	10am-2pm	Trent Rivers Trust	1, 5
Litter pick	Improving the environment of the park (whole route, if completed, is four miles)	Bradgate Park, LE6 0HB	9.30am-11.30am	Bradgate Park Trust	1, 3, 7, 10
Lock keeping / site maintenance	Shadowing volunteer lock keepers / lock painting / environmental improvements	Foxton Locks, LE16 7RA	10am-3pm	Canal & River Trust	1, 6, 8, 13
Meadow maintenance	Maintain / improve wildflower meadow for the benefit of bees and visitors	Heathcott Road, LE2 6LS	9.30am-12pm or 12.30-3pm	Saffron Acres	1, 3, 9, 10
Outdoor social care	Helping vulnerable adults undertake a range of outdoor activities (greenwood crafts, charcoal making, conservation work, etc)	LE14 2QS	9am-4pm	Sustainable Land Trust	1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 13
Owl boxes for local nature reserve	Make nesting boxes / learn more about local nature reserve	Glen Parva, LE2 9JD	1-4pm	Leicestershire County Council / Glen Parva Parish Council	2, 8
Path and 'amazing maze' creation	Create wheelchair friendly woodchip paths / plant sweetcorn and sunflower maze	Copinger Road, LE2 6LF	10am-12.30pm	Saffron Acres	1, 5, 8, 9
Pocket park clean-up	Weeding, pruning, planting community sensory garden	Webster Road, LE3 1RG	10am-2pm	b-inspired	1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9
Reservoir refresh	Clean up and environmental improvements	Saddington Reservoir, LE8 0QP	10am-2pm	Canal & River Trust	3, 6, 7, 8, 13
Seed sowing and vegetable plants	Sow vegetables / community food growing project	Copinger Road, LE2 6LF	1.30-4pm	Saffron Acres	2, 5
Sheltered housing garden makeover	Design, plan and dig a vegetable community garden	Hockley Farm Road, LE3 1HN	10am-1pm	b-inspired	1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 10
Sheltered housing garden makeover	Weeding, planting community garden	Hockley Farm Road, LE3 1HN	1-4pm	b-inspired	1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 10
Towpath taskforce	Towpath tidy / vegetation management / lock painting	Limekiln Lock, LE4 5AQ	10am-1pm	Canal & River Trust	6, 8, 13
Walking route identification	How to report path problems and features to ensure good path maintenance (includes a walk)	City Hall, LE1 1FZ	1.30-4.30pm	Leicester City Council	7
Woodland access improvements	Maintain local woodland as part of 2017 Bioblitz	Knighton Spinney, LE2 3YS	10am-12.30pm or 1-3.30pm	TCV	2, 4, 8, 10

Session	Description	Location	Session time(s)	Organisator	Notes
BioBlitz	Create a wildlife flower habitat for wildlife and the community	Knighton Park, LE2 3RR	10.30-11.30am or 1.30-2.30pm	Leicester City Council	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
BioBlitz event support	Learn more guided walks, nature trails, collecting wildlife data and engaging with the public	Knighton Park, LE2 3RR	8.30am-1pm or 1-5.30pm	Leicester City Council	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Bird/bat/butterfly/bee box making (to take away)	Contribute towards boosting the levels of biodiversity within your community	Faircharm Industrial Estate, LE3 2BU	9.30-11am or 12.30-2pm	Environmental Studies Ltd	2, 8
Community champion training	Cascade training for leading talks on the environment and park management	Bradgate Park, LE6 0HB	1.30-3.30pm	Bradgate Park Trust	2
Conservation taster	Conservation tasks taster session	Bradgate Park, LE6 0HB	10am-12noon or 1-3pm	Bradgate Park Trust	1, 3, 4, 8, 10
Creating habitat piles/bug hotels	Contribute towards boosting the levels of biodiversity within your community	Aylestone Meadows, LE2 8DZ	1.30-3pm	Environmental Studies Ltd	1, 4, 8, 10
Creation of new vegetable beds and wildlife habitats	Creation of new veg beds, habitat piles and bug homes at community allotment plot	Rowlatts Hill Allotments, LE5 4LD	10am-12noon or 1-3pm	Evington In Bloom	
Cycle maintenance training	Basic bike maintenance training	Bishop Street, LE1 6AF	10am-2pm	Community Cycles	
Dry stone walling taster session	Traditional countryside skill of drystone walling	Charnwood, LE11 3YG	10am-12.30pm or 1-3.30pm	TCV	2,4,8,9,10
Ecological monitoring	Educating and training on how to undertake an ecological survey of a stream, including records of species and their abundance, profiling riverbanks and water quality testing	Burrough-on-the-Hill, LE14 2QS	10am-4pm	Sustainable Land Trust	1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 13
Farm gardening	Guided gardening in small farm setting to produce vegetables for local Foodshare	Lubbesthorpe, LE19 4LA	9.30am-12.30pm or 1-4pm	b-inspired	1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10
Gardening session	Planting containers / vegetable seed planting	Knighton Park, LE2 3YS	10am-1pm	Knighton Park Gardening Club	
Green Life Boat, litter clearance	River cleaning session onboard narrow boat / bell boat. Learn about litter impact on water quality / wildlife conservation	River Soar, LE3 5QU	10am-12noon or 1pm-3pm	Leicester City Council	2, 10, 13
Introduction to bike maintenance	Social ride volunteer training (basic bike safety and small group / family riding)	New College, LE3 6DN	12noon-6pm: 50mins sessions starting on the hour	Leicester City Council	11
Invasive crayfish trapping	Educating and training members of the public in the principles of sustainable woodland management (charcoal, supporting coppice regrowth, firewood processing and wildflower establishment, etc)	Burrough-on-the-Hill, LE14 2QS	10am-4pm	Sustainable Land Trust	1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 13

Session	Description	Location	Session time(s)	Organisator	Notes
Leicester Cycle Circuit introduction	Opportunity to ride new circuit, meet ride leaders, race and event organisers and share group riding skills	New College, LE3 6DN	12noon-6pm: 50mins sessions starting on the hour	Leicester City Council	11
Leicester Wheels for All introduction	Introduction to Leicester Wheels for All, ride the circuit, meet organisers, ride leaders and try the adapted bike fleet	New College, LE3 6DN	10am-12noon	Leicester City Council	3
Litter pick for grandparents and grandchildren	Improving the environment of the park	Bradgate Park, LE6 0HB	9.30am-12.30pm	Bradgate Park Trust	1, 3, 10
Lock keeping / site maintenance	Shadowing lock keepers, towpath litter pick & environmental improvements	Birstall Lock, LE4 4EN	10am-2pm	Canal & River Trust	1, 6, 8, 13
Lock keeping / site maintenance	Shadowing volunteer lock keepers / lock painting / environmental improvements	Foxtan Locks, LE16 7RA	10am-3pm	Canal & River Trust	1, 6, 8, 13
Love Food, Hate Waste training	Training to help you spread the Love Food, Hate Waste message to a wider audience	Jubilee Hall, Anstey, LE7 7AY	10am-12.30pm or 1.30-4pm	Leicestershire County Council	2
Orchard maintenance	Heritage fruit orchard maintenance, keeping young trees clear from grasses	Heathcott Road, LE2 6LS	10am-12.30pm	Saffron Acres	1, 3, 8, 10
Owl boxes for local nature reserve	Make nesting boxes / learn more about local nature reserve	Glen Parva, LE2 9JD	2-5pm	Leicestershire County Council / Glen Parva Parish Council	2, 8
Path and 'amazing maze' creation	Create wheelchair friendly woodchip paths / plant sweetcorn and sunflower maze	Copinger Road, LE2 6LF	1-3.30pm	Saffron Acres	1, 5, 8, 9
Pond dipping, water wildlife surveys	Get to know your local wetland environments and native flora and fauna	Aylestone Meadows, LE2 8DZ	10am-11.30am or 12noon-1.30pm	Environmental Studies Ltd	5, 8, 9, 10
Visitor centre and guided tour introduction	Introduction to taking the public on heritage tours, highlighting Bradgate Park management, plus introduction to volunteering at the visitor centre (including information about SSSI and landscape heritage of the site)	Bradgate Park, LE6 0HB	10.30am-12.30pm and 1.30-3.30pm	Bradgate Park Trust	2, 6, 7, 10
Walk leader training	Training to lead walks safely (includes a demonstration walk)	Abbey Park education centre, LE4 5AQ	10am-4.30pm	Leicester City Council Walking and Cycling Team	7
Woodland access improvements	Carry out practical improvement works as part of 2017 Bioblitz	Knighton Spinney, LE2 3YS	10am-12.30pm or 1-3.30pm	TCV	2, 4, 8, 10
Woodland improvement	Educating and training members of the public in the principles of sustainable woodland management (charcoal, supporting coppice regrowth, firewood processing and wildflower establishment, etc)	Burrough-on-the-Hill, LE14 2QS	10am-4pm	Sustainable Land Trust	1, 4, 8, 10