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press news

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Clean up for wildlife on World Animal Day



26th September, 2008

To mark this year's World Animal Day on Saturday 4th October, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust is highlighting the dangers litter poses to our wild animals.

"There are many ways in which animals and wildlife can be harmed by litter," says John Sutton, the Trust's Senior Waste Minimisation Officer.

"Animals can be cut by sharp objects like cans or broken glass, strangled by plastic can holders or fishing lines, suffocated inside plastic bags, choked or poisoned on ingested plastics or cigarette butts, or trapped inside containers like cans and bottles."

"Every year animal welfare and wildlife rescue charities treat animals that have been trapped and/or injured by carelessly disposed of rubbish," he adds.

Ronnie McVeigh, one of the Trust's Wildlife Information Volunteers says: "We have had incidents of people calling the Trust about animals in danger – one incident involved the accumulation of a large build up of crisp packets, cans and plastic bottles at Crammer Lake, in Devizes – the water fowl were not injured, however it did affect the geese's nesting spots."

"There was also an incident of a discarded fishing line which birds got tangled up in," he adds. "In the case of injury, we refer the caller on to the appropriate wildlife rescue organisations and charities – details of which are also posted on our website."

The Trust's Litter Awareness Campaign is funded by The Underwood Trust and linked to the Campaign to Protect Rural England's national 'Stop the Drop' anti-litter crusade.

The Trust is encouraging people to take photos of any litter they come across and send it in to the Trust. It will then attempt to highlight the litter problem to the landowner and see if there is a way it can help resolve the issue.

John adds: "People can help wildlife by taking some simple actions."

John's tips:

1. Don't drop litter – either bin it or take it home with you for recycling.
2. Make rubbish safe – tie knots in plastic rubbish bags to prevent the contents

Latest News

Oct 08

- ▶ Keeping count: the big London water vole survey starts now
- ▶ Baby terns feared drowned turn up in Senegal
- ▶ GPS collars reveal globetrotting cattle
- ▶ Churchyard Winners
- ▶ Landowners requesting wildlife support on the increase

Sep 08

- ▶ Otters Launched into Cyberspace
- ▶ Political peregrines: birds of prey spotted homing on the Houses of Parliament
- ▶ Celebrity Art Auction
- ▶ Highest number of breeding Barn Owls recorded in Suffolk for three-quarters of a century
- ▶ Set-aside: One year on
- ▶ New series of BBC Scotland's Landward highlights nest life at Loch of the Lowes
- ▶ Clean up for wildlife on World Animal Day
- ▶ Taking forward the Marine Bill: Government response welcomed by The Wildlife Trusts
- ▶ Wildlife Trust Calls for Action over South East Plan
- ▶ Shanklin Beachwatch
- ▶ First Devon seal identification for Cornwall Seal Group
- ▶ Go nuts for the native nutkin
- ▶ Climate change could make soils an earthy problem
- ▶ SWT Chairman is joined by Minister for his homecoming
- ▶ Minister Joins Wildlife Trust to Enlist 50,000 People
- ▶ No New M4! – The Big CALM Protest
- ▶ The Hampshire River that won

from blowing away. If you can't recycle your cans, remove the lid, drop it to the bottom of the can and squash the top shut – this is to prevent animals from getting trapped inside. Likewise, with plastic bottles, if you can't recycle them, squash them and replace the top. Cut up items animals can get tangled in, like drink can holders, rubber bands or ribbons. Always recycle glass bottles and dispose of solvents and sump oil in specially designated collection points.

3. Report injured animals – a list of contacts is available via the Trust's website www.wiltshirewildlife.org.

4. Join in the Trust's 'Spot the Grot' campaign – send photos to johns@wiltshirewildlife.org (max 10Mb).

5. Join CPRE's national campaign – visit www.cpre.org.uk/campaigns/stop-the-drop.

Story by RSWT

More Information

Image Credit: Christine McGuinness - Marine Conservation Society

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the Lottery

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- ▶ Growing your own
- ▶ A wet autumn makes for a difficult harvest
- ▶ UK's leading environment NGOs challenge political parties to be 'fit for the future'
- ▶ Water Voles Are Appealing
- ▶ Life in the Wild
- ▶ Mind your mushrooms!
- ▶ Kent Wildlife Trust celebrates a new world record

Aug 08

- ▶ Future of Farming Award 2008
- ▶ Special Edition Vase for Dorset Wildlife
- ▶ Celebrating 2,000 years of history
- ▶ BBOWT and Carillon join forces for wildlife
- ▶ Viva Veolia – Big Birthday Bash
- ▶ Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve Provides Home for Reptiles in Need
- ▶ Five charged over criminal damage at Rye Meads Nature Reserve
- ▶ Water vole make a remarkable recovery following 2006 setback
- ▶ Artist under the sea
- ▶ Meet Dorset Wildlife Trust
- ▶ Woodland Nature Reserve under threat
- ▶ Expat 'steps up' to help save woodland nature reserve
- ▶ Young nature-lovers urged to wade through the crowd and 'rise to the bait'
- ▶ Man-of-war blows in
- ▶ Bringing back the giants in our seas

Jul 08

- ▶ Marine Bill report welcomed by The Wildlife Trusts
- ▶ The nest thing for cuttlefish
- ▶ Birdfair 'still in fine feather' after 20 years
- ▶ Dive in to National Marine Week with The Wildlife Trusts
- ▶ For peat's sake!
- ▶ Underwater photo winners make a splash
- ▶ Where is the ecology in eco-towns?
- ▶ Orchids put the oh! into restored grassland
- ▶ Rare Welsh cattle at Royal Show
- ▶ UK's rarest spider returns to native heath
- ▶ New courses for all ages in Surrey
- ▶ Threat to baby seahorse habitat
- ▶ TV naturalist opens Amwell's new dragonfly trail
- ▶ Study shows rise in Cornwall's

dolphin, whale, and porpoise deaths

- ▶ Wetlands hold the key to protecting our past and future
- ▶ Water industry should seize opportunity to protect environment and consumers
- ▶ New figures released today will reveal the massive untapped potential of London's gardens.
- ▶ Go nuts for nature this summer!
- ▶ Science the winner as Government rejects a badger cull
- ▶ Science the winner as Government expected to reject badger cull

Jun 08

- ▶ Conference to launch rare grassland project
- ▶ Looking after our otters
- ▶ Happy camping!
- ▶ Flooding - Government needs to show strong leadership
- ▶ New Moorcroft vase supports Dorset Wildlife Trust
- ▶ Wildlife Trust meets Shadow Minister for Housing at threatened reserve
- ▶ Water meadows for wetland birds
- ▶ New exclusion zone to protect one of the UK's top marine wildlife sites
- ▶ MP joins Wildlife Trusts in A Living Landscape Vision
- ▶ Stop dismantling the Planning system, urge The Wildlife Trusts
- ▶ BBC's The One Show filmed at Foxhill Bank reserve
- ▶ Unravelling mysteries of the harbour porpoise
- ▶ It's the economics, stupid
- ▶ Local environmental campaigner backs Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust's search for Green Guardians
- ▶ BARDON HILL QUARRY ACHIEVES BIODIVERSITY BENCHMARK AWARD
- ▶ Dorset ahead on linking landscapes
- ▶ River Ray opens for pleasure and wildlife
- ▶ The Hollies nature reserve now open to the public
- ▶ Calls for Weston Otmoor eco-town to be stopped
- ▶ Offshore windfarms
- ▶ Wildlife I.D. on right course
- ▶ Local schools celebrate Ratty's 100th birthday

May 08

- ▶ Celebrate the natural world during Wildlife Week (triple bill)
- ▶ Invasive plants make waterways green around the gills
- ▶ Beavers set to make welcome return to Scotland

- ▶ Bringing back the beaver
- ▶ Hilary Benn visits Wildlife Trust nature reserve
- ▶ Help protect Dorset's ancient landscape
- ▶ The Wildlife Trusts welcome new measures for the UK's biodiversity
- ▶ Mapping the seabed
- ▶ Response to Natural England's State of the Environment report
- ▶ Egg-spectant visitors get bird's eye view at Loch of the Lowes
- ▶ 'Ratty' helped to find refuge at RHS Chelsea Flower Show
- ▶ Farmers hope new homes will be a 'hoot'
- ▶ Charity Chief Executive puts best foot forward to raise funds for local wildlife conservation
- ▶ New neighbours highlight success of osprey project
- ▶ Snipe, reed warbler and sand martin
- ▶ Inclusion of Marine and coastal access bill in draft Legislative Programme brings hope of healthy seas
- ▶ Rare butterflies buck trend
- ▶ Plenty more fish in the sea?
- ▶ Solent Seahorses Sighted
- ▶ Early signs of renaissance in wildlife
- ▶ Nightingale performances are not to be missed
- ▶ New exhibition at Lyndon Visitor Centre
- ▶ Heathland wildlife killed on Upton Heath, Dorset

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