

Managing for Nature

Grassland management update.

The nature-friendly grass management pilot is approaching the end of its first year, with the final cut scheduled for October. Unsurprisingly, the dry weather over the summer has slowed growth. Despite this, by using new machinery, we have cut and removed the arisings from 12 hectares so far this year. Removing arisings is an important step in creating conditions for wild meadows to thrive.

[Find out more about how we are managing grassland for nature.](#)

Remember, you can also [feedback on our grassland management regime.](#)

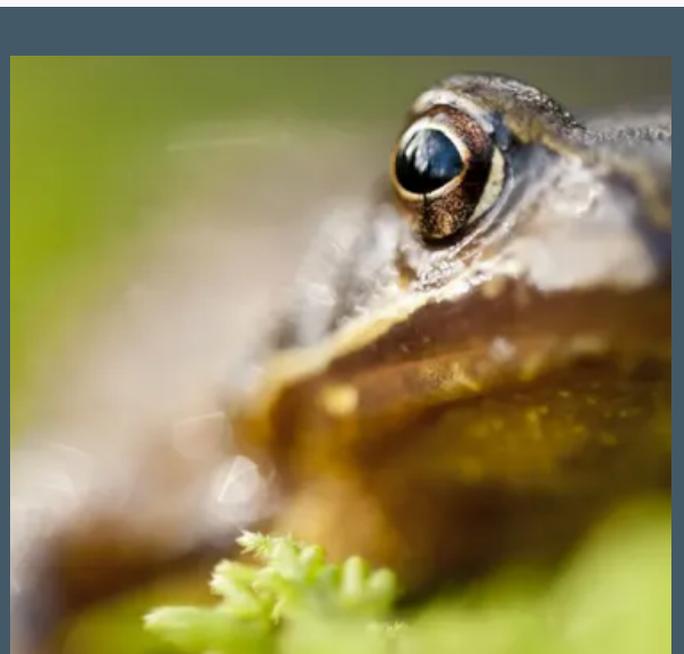
This issue:

Grassland Management update

New Ponds popping up soon

Get involved – volunteering opportunities

River restoration update



If you would like to get involved in pond creation this Autumn on one of these sites please visit our [Can Do Bristol page](#).

New ponds popping up soon!

We briefly mentioned ponds in our summer newsletter, and now the season for pond creation has arrived!

Ponds are incredible, and they are more important than ever. Supporting more species, than any other freshwater habitat, ponds are essential habitats for wetland wildlife.

Over the autumn, we will be working alongside community groups and ParkWork to create 5 new ponds in these Bristol Parks, bringing the total up to 7.

Arnall Drive Open Space
Coombe Brook Valley
Crow Lane Open Space
Horfield Common
Ridgeway Road



River restoration – Malago and Pigeon House stream

Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART) is currently in the process of preparing to deliver river restoration works along the River Malago in Manor Woods Valley and the Pigeon House Stream in Crox Bottom this winter.

Following recent walkover surveys of the watercourses carried out by BART, the restoration works will involve watercourse coppicing to allow more sunlight into the rivers. An increase in light will encourage the growth of aquatic and riverside plants, which are vital for supporting healthy populations of invertebrates and fish.



Heavily shaded stretch of the River Malago in Manor Woods Valley

In addition, BART plans to install strategically placed woody debris in the streams. Natural material helps to diversify river habitats, creating shelter for wildlife and promoting more dynamic water flow. It also plays an important role in natural flood management by slowing down and retaining water during heavy rainfall.

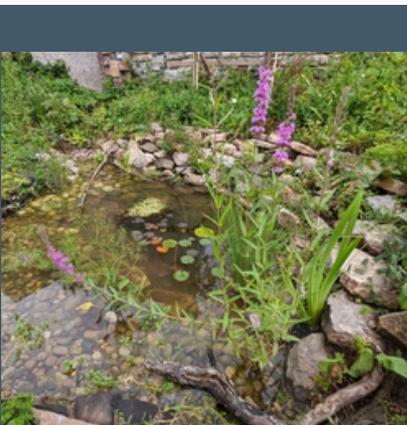
The team at BART has been working closely with the Friends of Manor Woods Valley to ensure the works are delivered effectively.

These restoration efforts will help support healthier, more resilient river ecosystems in South Bristol. For more information, please contact BART: info@bristolavonriverstrust.org.

Managing for nature – volunteering opportunities

Roving Ranger Nicky has been working alongside volunteers across the city to restore some of Bristol's Sites of Nature Conservation Interest. It's been a joy to meet new people, and we look forward to continuing the good work over the next season.

Our autumn volunteer programme is now out, you can sign up through our [Can Do Bristol](#) site.



Wildlife pond Credit AWT

Managing your own space for nature: create a wildlife pond in your garden

Ask anyone with a wildlife pond in their garden and they are likely to tell you – they are magical!

If you have spare space, a pond is the best feature you can add to your garden to attract wildlife and there is lots of guidance available to help you along. The Wildlife Trust has a great [pond building guide](#), and if space is limited, you can also learn how to [create a mini pond](#).



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BART summer event at Hartcliffe Community Farm

River Learning Day at Hartcliffe City Farm

On Friday 29th August, BART hosted a River Learning day at Hartcliffe City Farm, offering a variety of river-themed activities for families to enjoy.

The event saw an impressive turnout, with nearly 200 people taking part in a range of activities including Lego demonstrations of sustainable drainage, colouring in their own wooden fish keyrings, and examining river invertebrates collected from the River Malago.

The day provided a great opportunity for BART to engage the local community and share information about the upcoming river restoration works taking place on the river Malago in Manor Woods Valley, and Pigeonhouse Stream in Crox Bottom.

Managing for Nature activities in South Bristol.

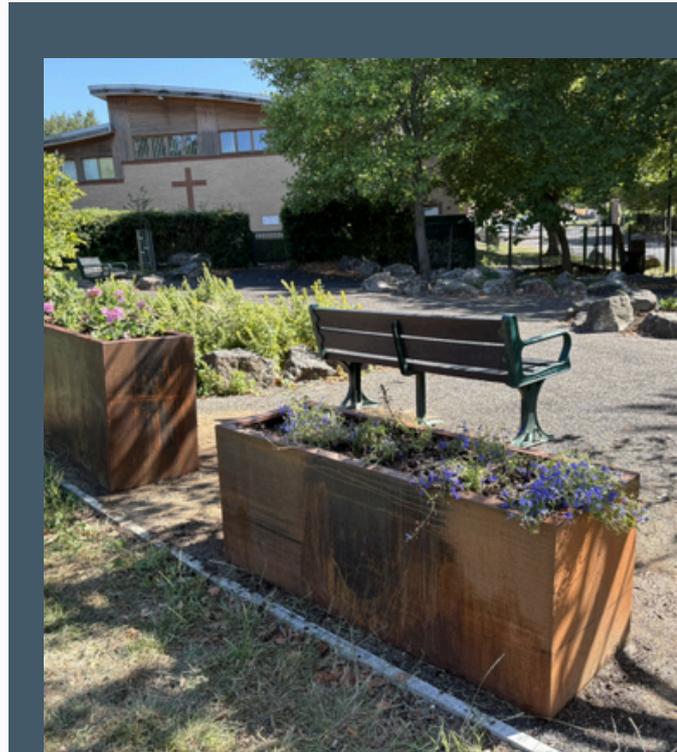
Your Park Bristol and Bath have supported 8 family events this summer in South Bristol parks.

Activities included propagating and planting herbs, litter picking, making insect homes, wildflower seed bombs and bird feeders.

We have partnered with the Mixand Match Gardening Group, Hartcliffe Withywood Community Partnership and Hawkspring to support events in Hartcliffe Millennium Green, Withywood Park, Wilmott Park and Spacemakers.

208 people have taken part to these accessible events and its been wonderful to work alongside the diverse communities of south Bristol.

There are more events planned for Barton Hill Urban Park, Netham Park and Wilmott Park in October.



Summer event in south Bristol – Raised beds planted up with pollinators in Hartcliffe Millennium Green



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